The German Tribune

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Walter Scheel visits the Middle East

Foreign Minister Walter Scheel's official visits to Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan were intended first and foremost to deal with the political and economic backlogs that had accumulated between our respective countries.

In the troublesome years followeing 1965 cultural ties fortunately did not come to an abrupt end, this country's Goethe Institutes being only semi-official in character.

Diplomatic relations with Bonn were broken off by nearly all Arab countries in the wake of Bonn's recognition of the Israeli government.

Virtually the entire Arab world transferred its allegiance, as it were, from Chancellor Adenauer's Federal Republic to the GDR.

In the long run this country, which for a number of years has been a leading European power and an international heavyweight on the economic scene, cannot afford to maintain understaffed, hole-in-the-corner relations with the Arabs.

For Bonn the Arab world represents a trading partner of long standing, an important source of petroleum and, as it happens, an extremely critical observer of Bonn's necessarily positive ties with Israel, the Arabs' rival in the Middle East.

Walter Scheel was evidently delighted at the opportunity of entering into direct talks again, and his gratification was apparent at Cairo airport even before he made personal contact with Egyptian Foreign Minister Sayyat, Deputy Premier Hatem, Vice-President Fawzi and above all President Sadat.

His Cairo hosts were no less gratified, as were the powers that be in Beirut and Amman. Herr Scheel's visit was the first official one by a high-ranking Bonn figure for a decade and the Arabs had long set great store by the re-establishment of diplomatic ties with Bonn.

They had great expectations of Bonn as a mediator in the Middle East and as a provider of generous financial assistence. This much was common knowledge in Cairo weeks before the arrival of the man responsible for foreign affairs aspects of the policies pursued by Willy Brandt, which are both esteemed and popular in the Arab world.

It was in this context that Western ambassadors talked in terms of the Arab hart panting for cooling streams from Bonn, whereas Bonn's position was rendered somewhat difficult by virtue of its special relationship with Israel and by the need to be increasingly sparing with its development aid allocations.

It came as something of a surprise to note that the Cairo press welcomed Foreign Minister Scheel first and foremost as a mediator between the Arabs on the one hand and the United States and the Soviet Union on the other.

The Egyptians seem to be insistent on this point. In the course of last February's trade talks between Cairo and Bonn, dealing exclusively with Egypt's international obligations and the negotiation of fresh financial aid from this country, the Arabs repeatedly mentioned the possibility of Bonn bringing influence to bear in the Soviet capital.

In addition to bilateral issues the Cairo visit by Bonn's Foreign Minister proved not unimportant for Europe as a whole in that in its course both Foreign Minister Sayyat and Vice-President Fawzi, a man not hitherto known to be pro-European in his outlook, for the first time adopted a positive approach to the European security conference and MBFR talks.

In the past Cairo and other Arab capitals have restricted themselves to vociferous approval of the idea of including the Middle East on the European security agenda.

Herr Scheel has now been told, as was intimated in the course of the preliminaries, that Cairo would like to be directly represented at the security conference.

Egypt's view is that if far-off Canada is to be represented at the conference, then at least the non-European countries bordering the Mediterranean ought also to take part.

These of course include Israel. May be the European security conference will prove an effective international forum paving the way to a peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict after all. At the moment the position is certainly one of stalemate due to rivalry between the great powers.

Heinz Gstrein

(Vorwarts, 24 May 1973)



Walter Scheel with Egyptian Foreign Minister Hassan Sayyat in Cairo on 24 May

(Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Europe cool to US suggestions on revitalised Charter

Western Europe's response to the American proposal for a new Atlantic Charter has been a long time coming. The initial commentaries nearly all sound either a critical or a sceptical note.

Many Europeans feel Washington's proposals for an overall review of sorely troubled Atlantic relations to represent a bear-hug in which Europe would come off worst.

Instead of a comprehensive review they would prefer to deal with the major problems outstanding separately and item by item. In economic affairs, trade and monetary matters they feel themselves to be the American's equal, and they would like to see a clear distinction drawn between these topics and the trickier one of security policy.

The Americans feel this approach to be outmoded. In their view all these topics are inextricably interlinked and ought to be dealt with together.

Western Europe would very much like the United States to keep troops stationed on the Continent. The upkeep of US bases in Europe contributes substantially to the American balance-of-payments deficit. The deficit is one of the causes of the dollar crisis, which in its turn has not been without effect on the terms of trade.

Talks on the one issue only make sense when it is seen as part of the whole, and this "whole" includes — whether America's European allies like the idea or not — the defence and security of the West.

Most Western Europeans are none too keen on the idea of economic and monetary affairs on the one hand and security on the other being considered to be interlinked.

The reason is that this is indeed the weakest link in the chain of European arguments. The Continent would appear to be unable to join forces not only to make a greater contribution to the defence of the West as a whole but even towards its own defence.

As long as Western Europe cannot even manage this its position with regard to the United States will necessarily be an uncomfortable one, and with an uneasy conscience Western Euope will continue to object to the inclusion of Western defence on the Atlantic agenda.

For the governments of Western Europe this is a short-term and somewhat risky approach. It is shortsighted because it continues to relieve the Europeans of the need to give their future secuity serious consideration.

Even assuming that the United States will continue to be seriously interested in maintaining its military presence in Europe it is self-evident that the present establishment cannot be maintained indefinitely.

If Nato's Eurogroup continues not to deliver the goods the pressure on President Nixon to reduce America's costly military presence in Europe will clearly increase.

This trend is lent added weight by fresh developments in weapons technology. It has, for instance, been confirmed that US heavy artillery in Europe is to be supplied with nuclear shells that are, it is claimed, "simpler, more effective and more reliable" than conventional ammunition.

What is more, work has long been in progress on the perfecting of conventional armaments. There are weapons in the offing that are evidently on a par with smaller nuclear devices as regards both efficacy and accuracy.

Far-reaching changes in conventional armament will be the upshot and the result for all practical purposes will doubtless be that deterrent capacity can be either maintained or increased with fewer weapons and less manpower.

This will necessarily affect America's military presence in Europe.

At present Western Europe can certainly not afford to allow inroads to be made on US security guarantees, not only because it lags behind the swift developments in weapons technology that are currently under way but also because the Soviet Union, detente notwithstanding, is pressing ahead with its substantial arms programme.

Many observers have failed to realise that Western Europe's military vulnerability has increased in recent years. It is strange that Western Europeans have signally failed to respond to the change even though it makes them even more dependent on the United States.

America and America alone, is in a position to provide an effective counterweight to the Eastern Bloc. This being the case, the negative response by many Europeans to America's suggestion that the entire Atlantic relationship be reviewed is both shortsighted and fraught with danger.

Curt Gasteyger

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 May 1973)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Brezhnev – an honest broker in Bonn

Frankfurter Rundschau

Soviet Party leader Leonid Brezhnev may not have staked his political future on Bonn's booming economy, but he has certainly flirted hotly with major industrialists in the Federal Republic of Germany, and results will have to be forthcoming soon if his advances are not to boomerang at some stage or other.

The Bonn advances are not the only ones to have been made during the Brezhnev era. For some time the Kremlin has been at its most winsome in dealings with economically powerful countries in Western Europe. Contracts have been signed with the United States, and Japan has been virtually begged to participate in the development of Siberia on the best of terms.

The trauma of China is doubtless partly responsible. The mere idea of a Far Eastern axis of Asian great powers, no matter how limited it might be in extent, sends shivers down the spine of the Kremlin leaders.

In other respects too foreign policy considerations have motivated the General Secretary and his Ministers in signing treaty arrangements.

Economic cooperation and relaxation of political tension are turning out to be two sides of the same coin, a kind of coexistence almost amounting to integration of the Soviet Union in the international economic and political set-up.

The international system, let it be added, is still pre-eminently determined by capitalist ideas and forces.

The Soviet Union is letting itself in for a risky business. Should it prove a failure, repercussions in the Soviet system will be inevitable. Yet there is no other solution to the crisis inherent in the Soviet system.

Economic considerations far outweigh foreign policy ones. In the five-year plan leading up to 1975 the emphasis was to be laid on consumer goods, but the Soviet Union's own resources proved inadequate barely a year after the plan got under way. A poor harvest has finally put paid to the whole idea.

The centrally administered economy of the Soviet Union not only suffers from bad weather, though. Its complaints include inefficiency, routine, inability to respond promptly to growing consumer expectations and, to add insult to injury, stifling red tape.

The economy has fallen foul of the new class, which has solved its problems quite satisfactorily, thank you. Yet since it monopolises political and economic decision-making and is, in the final analysis, not prepared to allow the representatives of the working class, the trade unions, more than an auxiliary role in careers training and boosting productivity, the new class is itself becoming a drag and giving rise to dissatisfaction.

What is more, the country's capital backing is insufficient. High armaments expenditure, productivity shortfall and losses due to red tape combine to make the shortage of capital perceptible.

The idea now is to attract capital from elsewhere as an incentive to growth. This was one of the targets of Lenin's New Economic Policy, which was, however, a short-term scheme that if anything came too late in the day.

As soon as the NEP bourgeoisie and kulaks grew too powerful Stalin resorted to the transitional-phase economics advocated by the left-wing Opposition within the CPSU (though by this stage the Opposition itself had been liquidated) and set the wheels of revolution in motion from above.

Initially the economic system functioned. Now it is badly in need of repair in all departments.

The new NEP, with Mr Brezhnev as its prime broker, is calculated on a more long-term basis. Marxists realise that with it the prospects of Soviet socialist Utopia recede even further into the distant future.

Western countries can breathe a sigh of relief. At a crossroads of Soviet development they have been presented with an opportunity.

Should they choose to accelerate what seems likely to be an economically profitable venture, they will probably find it to have been a politically profitable investment too.

Karl Grobe

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 May 1973)

Three agreements signed

In three agreements signed on 19 May in Bonn this country and the Soviet Union propose to intensify economic, industrial and technological cooperation and to improve their ties in cultural affairs and aviation.

Both sides attach particular importance to economic, industrial and technological cooperation. This particular agreement, comprising a preamble and ten articles, covers cooperation in the following sectors:–

– the construction of industrial plant
– industrial expansion and modernisation
– the manufacture of equipment
– the production and supply of raw materials.

The agreement also deals with the exchange of patent rights, licences, know-how and technological information, the application and improvement of existing or new techniques and the despatch of service personnel.

The signatories likewise propose to lend support to cooperation between their representative organisations and firms in other countries.

By the terms of the agreement a joint commission on economic, scientific and technological cooperation has been set up to supervise and support the implementation of the treaty for a ten-year period and

Continued on page 3

For the first time ever the Berlin problem has been mentioned in an official document signed by this country and the Soviet Union – though only indirectly.

In the joint communique issued to mark the end of Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn the Soviet Party leader and this country's Chancellor Brandt went on record as agreeing that the strict observance and full application of the 3 September 1971 Four-Power agreement on Berlin are a fundamental prerequisite of lasting detente in Central Europe.

For the superficial observer this agreement on an agreement may mean nothing new, since both Bonn and Moscow already claim to observe the terms of the agreement to the letter.

The letter of the agreement was, of course, the point on which the two governments differed. While Bonn viewed its responsibility for West Berlin in the conclusion of international agreements not affecting the city's status as a matter of course by the terms of the Four-Power agreement, Moscow has noted that according to Annex 4 to the agreement contracting parties *may* do so. There is no obligation involved.

According to the exchange of notes between the three Western Allies and the Soviet Union contained in this annex Bonn *can* represent West Berlin insofar as the security and status of the city are not affected.

Brandt and Brezhnev see eye to eye on West Berlin

What is involved, then, is a linguistic quarrel over the significance of the word "can." And a great deal of political substance is at stake.

The dispute is not solved one way or the other by the wording of the communiqué. The importance of the document jointly issued to mark the end of Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn is the official admission it entails that Berlin is the key to the further development of relations between this country and the Soviet Union.

This realisation is underlined by the further comment that the strict observation and full application of the Four-Power agreement are the prerequisite of an improvement in relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union in particular.

This by no means relieves the United States, Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union of their joint responsibility for Berlin but the communiqué leaves no doubt for that matter as to the fact that the communiqué's catalogue of desiderata by way of closer cooperation in economic, industrial, scientific, technological and cultural affairs can only be accomplished once disputes as to Bonn's right to represent West Berlin have come to an end and the right is indeed regarded as a matter of course.

What more particularly matters is that by appending his signature to the communiqué Leonid Brezhnev has acknowledged this to be the case.

Now provided the further development of relations between this country and the Soviet Union is as important as Mr Brezhnev made it out to be in, say, his television interview, Moscow can, in the near future, be expected to avoid placing any further strain on these relations in the context of Berlin.

Let there be no exaggerated illusions, though. The Soviet Union is a great power and Mr Brezhnev is a level-headed exponent of *realpolitik*. Moscow will be obliging for only as long as it suits the Kremlin to do so.

Bonn ought to grasp the opportunity presented by Mr Brezhnev wanting to deal with the Common Market via this country, needing detente in relations with the West in view of the development in relations with Peking and counting on Bonn's support in Vienna, Helsinki and elsewhere.

Hans Wolfgang Engelmann

(Bremer Nachrichten, 23 May 1973)

THE AGENDA

Security conference

In common with Foreign Mi... Andrei Gromyko and Walter S... Soviet Party leader Leonid Brezhnev... Chancellor Willy Brandt were agreed... the conference of Foreign Ministers... security and cooperation in Europe... get under way in Helsinki at the end... June, or early July at the latest, as... as preliminaries have come to a succ... conclusion.

Problems relating to a mutual bal... force reduction in Europe were discussed in detail. The special pro... that exist in this context would app... have come to light.

European Community

Although the Soviet Union is p... cularly interested in long-term b... economic cooperation with the Fe... Republic the development of... European Community played a s... cant part in the talks between Cha... Brandt and General Secretary Bre...

Soviet spokesman Leonid Samya... not prepared to go into details o... Soviet Union's views on the EEC... press conference, but did note... negative views are generally paid g... attention than positive comments. "If... Common Market is prepared to coop... with us, then fair enough," he added.

Exit permits for emigrants

Spokesman Samyatin was asked... journalists to comment on the diffic... encountered by Soviet Jews and ci... of German extraction who would li... emigrate. Special problems existed... neither instance, he maintained. ... provisions relating to the right to... the Soviet Union applied in ... measure to all.

President Heinemann must ev... have raised these issues during his... with Mr Brezhnev on 19 May I... government spokesman Rüdiger... Wechmar was not prepared to ... the fact in as many words.

Visitors and receptions

On the morning of 21 May the... leader first received a delegation fr... Federal Republic Communist ... (DKP). According to *Tass* the enc... took place in an atmosphere of co... and fraternal amity.

Mr Brezhnev later met leading t... unionists headed by Heinz Oskar Ve... chairman of the Trade Union Confe... tion (DGB). According to Vetter it ... somewhat one-sided but most intere... meeting.

At the invitation of Premier H... Kühn of North Rhine-Westphalia Gen... Secretary Brezhnev and Chanc... Brandt flew to Homburg Castle for lu... The day came to a close with a gala d... at Petersberg, Bonn, to which ... Brezhnev had invited 128 guests.

(Die Welt, 22 May 19...)

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DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

Signs of renewed optimism among Christian Democrats

Optimism is budding again in the CDU. The convincing majority with which the Bundestag party group voted for Professor Carstens to succeed Rainer Barzel has meant that the barometer of hopes in the party is rapidly rising.

Even those who found Rainer Barzel's two resignations in quick successions a heavy burden for the party feel that with the election of this new face as parliamentary party leader the party has gone a long way towards happier shores.

The most optimistic of the optimists believe that when the party elects a new Chairman in June it will be soaring again. But this is of course very exaggerated. A change of leadership is no certain guarantee for new successes.

Since the days of Adenauer the CDU has been more prone to the illusion that whatever is wrong will right itself in the end, and for this reason top-level changes in personnel have been rare. But the dilemma of the CDU is inevitably linked with the unfortunate leaders it has had since Adenauer.

Three different party Chairmen in seven years – that is no way of showing the party is stable. But more important, the CDU and CSU will find inner confidence again when a convincing majority of their various factions and groups can agree on a programme so that a sufficient number of voters feels it can really identify with CDU/CSU policy.

Premature optimism is out of place. Neither the election of Carstens nor the presumed election of Kohl in itself gives a clue to the potential for recovery of the "union parties" and the brightness of their future. Not till the party conference to outline policies in October will these clues be available.

The CDU will go through months of tough negotiations before the party-political conference in Hamburg on 10 October. With confidence Helmut Kohl said recently: "We don't need a Godesberg," alluding to the important SPD conference to formulate party policy. This is one theory that seems to be premature after all the months of indecision.

The "union" parties desperately need to take up a definite stance. The battles that ensued following Barzel's demise, and which were really going on before he departed, are a scarcely refutable indication that the programmatic statements at present being applied are obviously not accepted by the party as a whole.

Anyone who tries to understate the difficulties facing the CDU/CSU by reducing them to the formula 'Franz Josef Strauss' is really making an unacceptable claim. Obviously Strauss will remain a burden while he is the strongest politician on the Opposition benches. – and he is indisputably that by a long way. – and yet the route to the top in the Bundestag is closed to him.

A divorce of CDU and CSU would not be the solution, but would tend to bring both parties greater disadvantages than benefits. For inside the CDU there is a strong group that supports the CSU.

In fact the wings that have formed around Strauss and Dregger on the one hand and Katzer and Blum on the other are so far apart on German policy and vital domestic affairs that it would be euphemistic to say they were not trying to draw the party in different directions.

Differences of opinion are at present so obvious that they can no longer be veiled. They must now be hammered out. With this background neither Karl Carstens nor the next Chairman of the party is to be envied his job. Both, and particularly the CDU Chairman, would be failing in their duty if they conducted their job in the manner of the chairman of a television discussion programme.

Those who have had a chance to observe Helmut Kohl, the likely successor to Barzel, in the past few days will have been astonished to note that he lacked much of the confidence that was part of his old self. His policy statements were rather like a menu on which each group in the party could be sure to find its favourite dish.

Of course tactics will be much in force up till the Bonn party congress. But tactics alone are not enough as the master tactician Rainer Barzel learnt to his cost. A party chairman must show his colours and must be prepared to fight for his political convictions. Only then will he gain the stature he needs to prevent minorities' forcing their opinions on majorities. Only then will the CDU come out with the clear statement of what it stands for, which is so essential. And only then will the future chairman ensure that the electorate identifies with this programme.

Just how important it is to identify with the programme and the man who champions it is shown by the two prime examples – Adenauer and Brandt. If Kohl is to make a better job of it than Barzel he must champion a cause in which he really believes.

A party that fails to come out with an unmistakable line for fear of internal wrangles, which are a natural function of a popular party, a party that contents itself with coming out from time to time with a negative reaction to government policy would be responsible for putting itself in limbo.

Internal party tensions can only be relieved by airing them. Dregger and Katzer are at present the crassest examples of differing concepts. They too must be sworn in on a common denominator acceptable to all.

However painful the process of defining its position in black and white may be the CDU has got to do so. The party must produce a programme that provides credible answers to problems of the day. The change of leadership of party and parliamentary party is only the first step. A more important one must follow.

Ludwig Harms

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 21 May 1973)

Continued from page 2

to work out proposals for cooperation in the sectors outlined.

The cultural agreement, comprising a preamble and eighteen articles, includes cooperation on education and scientific research. Its provisions include the following:–

– cooperation between government bodies, schools and universities, further education colleges and other education and research institutes
– exchange of experience between delegations
– exchanges of scientists and teachers
– exchanges of students, postgraduates and junior lecturers.

Two-year programmes are to be drawn up for cooperation, which will also extend to films, radio and television and reviews of school textbooks. A joint committee is regularly to review current exchanges and cooperation.

The agreement further provides for mutual recognition of academic diplomas and university degrees. The language and literature of the other country are to be promoted in teaching.

Both the cultural and the economic, industrial and technological agreements apply both to the Federal Republic and to West Berlin.

By the terms of the additional minute to the aviation agreement Lufthansa are entitled to operate what will initially be weekly flights to Tokyo via Moscow and Siberia starting on 31 July.

For passengers from this country the time saving over the polar route currently flown amounts to between five and six hours.

Lufthansa are also to be empowered to operate services to and from West Berlin airports. In this case, though, other prerequisites – both technical and legal must first be fulfilled.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 21 May 1973)

Attempt to hinder Basic Treaty

Bremer Nachrichten

The Federal state of Bavaria intends to try to scupper the Basic Treaty between the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic by lodging a complaint with the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe.

The Bavarian Council of Ministers decided on 23 May to call for an interim injunction from the Constitutional Court preventing the implementation of this piece of legislation, which has already been ratified by the Bundestag, until the Court has decreed whether the Treaty is constitutional or otherwise.

The Bavarian government will try to prove at the Court that the Basic Treaty is not in accordance with Basic Law and is thus null and void. The grounds are that the Basic Treaty allegedly infringes the obligation in the preamble to Basic Law to reunify Germany and the obligation to maintain the integrity of the State, as well as allowing other parts of Germany to respect Basic Law.

The immediate response of the government was to voice its firm conviction that the Basic Treaty conforms with the decrees of Basic Law. Government spokesman Rüdiger von Wechmar said that the policies at the root of the Basic Treaty were the only realistic means of carrying out the behests of Basic Law.

FDP general secretary Karl-Hermann Flach stated that the Bavarian appeal need cause the government little concern.

The CDU/CSU was reserved in its attitude towards the initiative taken by the Bavarian state government. The parliamentary party spokesman said that this was a sovereign decision of the Bavarian government.

The Federal states with a CDU government do not intend to appeal to the Constitutional Court over the Basic Treaty, according to a survey carried out by the news agency dpa, after the Bavarian decision was taken.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 23 May 1973)

CDU social services committees get tough

It was no wonder that Rainer Barzel, in his role as ex-leader of the Opposition, received warm and indeed rapturous applause at the national congress of the CDU social services committee in Bochum. If there is a group within the party that regrets Barzel's fall it is the Christian Democratic workers' committees (CDA), in whose ranks Barzel began his political career, and on whom he can now look as his most sympathetic supporters when he is down.

What was even more significant was the miserable performance put up in front of the same body by the man who seems due to step into Barzel's shows as CDU Chairman, Helmut Kohl, the Palatinate Premier. This giant with a stentorian voice was scarcely able to cover up his poor showing by powerful rhetoric.

Since Kohl came out against the proposals for worker participation in management put forward by the social services committee and opposed Dregger and the suggestions the committee had made at the Düsseldorf party-political conference two and a half years ago his relationship with the Hans Katzer wing of the party has been uneasy.

But instead of taking the opportunity in Bochum to make up for his transgressions in Düsseldorf he had nothing specific to say about the demands made by the social services committee, apart from a few carefully weighed words. The thing with which he could have satisfied the expectations of the reformers, who were becoming agitated, he had betrayed a few days before to the CDU association dealing with local government affairs, namely his four guidelines on worker participation, the content of which shows slightly more resemblance to the Katzer Plan, and which he repeated in Bochum.

The delegates were perceptibly disappointed, but he was able to impress them somewhat by explaining that for tactical reasons he did not want to reveal too many concrete ideas on worker participation or other important topics before the party conference and elections in Bonn.

But the seeds of conflict with which the "union" parties will have to busy themselves at least until the Hamburg conference on party policy were clearly to be seen in Bochum.

The social services committee has been shaken and left uncertain of itself by the fall and resignation of Katzer's friend Barzel. They are now likely to make their demands heard even louder than in the past, even at the expense of risking a rift.

When Barzel was toppled it seemed as though the trial of strength for the party would happen straight away. A group of "hawks" hovering around the Chairman of the social services committees in the Ruhr, MP Ferdi Breidbach, were talking along the lines of breaking up the alliance with the CSU as a joint parliamentary party.

But since then party members, including Katzer, have calmed down, especially as the election of Karl Carstens as Chairman of the parliamentary party will not mean the end of any programmatic progress. Helmut Kohl, as party Chairman, would not be likely to stand in Carstens' way, so Carstens can be sure of the support of the social services committees.

On these committees there is widespread feeling that if the "union" parties are given what they need in the way of solidarity via good behaviour, debates on specific matters can be carried out in Hamburg as forcefully as is necessary in the light of the lack of clear concepts that has been dogging the CDU/CSU of late. There are even some optimists who see the seeds of the social services committees blossoming in the broad centre of the party.

Hans Katzer, impressively re-elected as Chairman, has already stated where the battle will be fought: on the fields of worker participation and capital accumulation in private hands.

Dirk Bavendamm

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 May 1973)

■ HEALTH

Works doctors confer in Munich

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Workers must be treated like human beings, Bavarian Labour Minister Fritz Pirkl said on opening the Association of Labour Medicine's annual congress in Munich. They must not be looked upon merely as tools in the industrial process.

The factory doctors attending the congress would also like Pirkl's words to apply to their profession. Factory doctors are primarily medics and not a kind of anti-sickness machine.

They no longer want to be looked upon as the "lackeys of capital" – an insult frequently heaped upon them – but as servants of the working man, Professor Werner Klosterkötter of Essen stated.

The Professor would like to see the independence of the works doctor guaranteed – from all outside influences. He believes that the law governing works doctors proposed by the SPD-FDP coalition will threaten this independence to a certain degree.

The Metalworkers Union insists on the worker participation in questions of personnel – embodied in the 1972 industrial relations law – being extended to cover the factory doctor service and safety experts employed by concerns.

The doctors believe there is some danger in works councils being able to influence the appointment of factory doctors and in works doctors being obliged to report to these councils.

Professor Klosterkötter would like to see the doctor's neutral status in society preserved in the working world as well. He sees the necessity of close cooperation between works doctors and works councils but believes it wrong for the doctor to be legally subordinate to the works council.

In view of the increasing trend towards "medical consumption" – a more or less automatic process in an advanced industrial society – any doctor involved in labour or social medicine, whether employed by a firm or the State itself, is subjected to an increasing amount of pressure.

This pressure can be exerted by firms concerned only with productivity, by insurance companies or by the patients themselves. In this conflict of interests doctors – irrespective of whether they are general practitioners, works doctors or State-employed medical inspectors – must be able to take independent decisions. Only medical aspects should play a role, not economic. Works doctors expect the State to guarantee and not undermine this indispensable basis for their work.

The public should support factory doctors on this point. A free society should protect the independence of the free professions. Members of these professions face a number of problems that are not always fully comprehensible to outsiders.

Labour medicine in the Federal Republic needs to be encouraged. Its development must not be inhibited. Today there are only 470 full-time and some two thousand part-time works doctors. Another 3,500 to 7,000 are needed.

University training has improved a good deal in recent years – largely as a result of the activities of Professor Herbert Valentin of Nuremberg, for many years the head of the Labour Medicine Association.

But little has changed for the better in the practical world of labour medicine. There are a number of reasons for this. It is said that young doctors do not want to become works doctors because of current conditions. On top of this earnings are not so high as in private practice and works doctors have a lower social status.

Professor Klosterkötter believes there would be a better chance of boosting labour medicine if medical association did not draw such a sharp line between works doctors and general practitioners.

He believes that works doctors should also be allowed to help treat patients to a certain extent. Patients too would welcome this as general practitioners do not always have the time or opportunity to acquaint themselves with the problems their patients face at their place of work. And it is these problems that often jeopardise the course of treatment they prescribe.

Proposals welcomed

As yet there has been no close examination of the proposal to include private specialists in labour medicine – though none exist today – in group practices where they can help in treatment and consultation. Professor Valentin believes that serious consideration should be taken of this proposal.

The works doctors welcomed the proposal to set up labour medicine centres in Bavaria from public funds. This should represent a good opportunity for smaller firms to meet the demands of future legislation. Similar centres in other Federal states have already proved their worth.

Wilhelm Girstenbrey

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 May 1973)

Universities step up medical student intake

Frankfurter Rundschau

The shortage of doctors in the Fe[deral] Republic is assuming disa[strous] proportions despite the almost [...] thousand foreign doctors who wo[rk in] this country's hospitals.

Only a small proportion of stu[dents] wishing to study medicine are acc[epted] by universities. What is even [more] depressing is that the actual numbe[r of] medical students has gone down.

A total of 5,900 medical stud[ents] started their course of study in the w[inter] and summer semesters of 1962. In [the] 1971-72 academic year only 5,607 o[f] 28,723 applicants were accepted.

This means that all the financia[l and] administrative measures of the [...] government and Federal states ov[er the] past ten years have only led to [...] three hundred fewer students [...] unable to begin their medical studies.

As the number of places availab[le has] not decreased during the past ten yea[rs it] seems high time that the length of s[tudy] should be drastically cut. Any stu[dent] who has occupied a place for [...] semesters longer than the m[...] period of study should be forced to [leave] university.

More students must be forced [...] their final examinations, not only b[...] of those students wishing to begi[n ...] studies but also because of the p[...] shortage of two thousand anaest[...], five thousand general practi[tioners], between five and seven thousand fu[ll-time] works doctors and about fifty per ce[nt of] the medical staff of health depart[ments].

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 Ma[y ...])

Medical care deteriorates in rural areas

Fewer and fewer doctors fancy the idea of working in rural areas. Hundreds of small villages and dormitory suburbs are already without general practitioners. And this disatrous state of affairs can only deteriorate.

Some 25,000 general practitioners will be retiring in the next ten years – that is three-quarters of all family doctors – and there is no one to take their place. More young medics train to become specialists today.

It is the patient who suffers. While organ transplants will soon be little of a sensation in cities, the only advice that country-dwellers can be given is to learn to cure themselves when they catch harmless diseases such as influenza, tonsilitis or measles. The number of house calls by doctors will be decreasing all the time.

A doctor can practise where, when and for as long as he wants. No medical association can force him to go to underprivileged country areas or dormitory towns on the edges of our cities. And few doctors go there voluntarily.

A number of examples can be given that are typical for the medical care available to country-dwellers and persons living in the outer suburbs of large cities.

When a seventy-year-old woman catches a serious bout of flu in the small Bavarian town of Inchenhofen, she is left with no other alternative than walking the five miles to Kühbach if she knows nobody with a car. No buses serve Inchenhofen. If she is unable to reach Kühbach, she has to try to get over the flu as best she can without medical treatment.

The 1,447 inhabitants of Inchenhofen and the eight hundred people living in the immediate vicinity have been waiting for their own doctor for a long time. The nearest doctors are in Kühbach, Aichach and Pöttmes, all between four and six miles away.

"We don't know what house calls are," mayor Michael Heinrich comments. "No doctors from the neighbouring towns ever come here. They think we are too far away and they have so much work anyway."

Inhabitants of Grossmehring in Upper Bavaria have to take a six-mile bus ride

Frankfurter Rundschau

into Ingolstadt whenever they are sick – however much they would like to just lie down in bed.

Since their local doctor died a year ago being bedridden is the worst that can happen to any of the 3,500 inhabitants of Grossmehring or the 5,700 people in the surrounding area. "Doctors refuse to come here from Ingolstadt, Manching and Kösching," mayor Johann Mirbeth explains.

Schöllkrippen in Lower Franconia has 2,600 inhabitants and another twelve thousand persons in the surrounding area. The village is trying to attract a second general practitioner by offering a new house.

Councillors at Hürtgenwald in North Rhine-Westphalia despaired so long about ever finding a doctor that they finally hit upon the unusual idea of offering him his own hunting ground if he would volunteer to look after the community's seven thousand inhabitants. He will also be supplied with a house and practice of course.

But country villas, cheap building ground and other concessions do not seem to make doctors any more eager to settle for rural life. Michael Heinrich, the mayor of Markt Inchenhofen, is gradually beginning to lose all hope.

"We would sell the doctor a wonderful two-thousand square-metre site at rock-bottom price," he explains. "If a person builds a house, he usually stays. But nobody has approached us so far. I can only pray that no one is taken sick."

Johann Mirbeth, his colleague from Grossmehring, has run out of ideas of how to attract a general practitioner to the village. "The fact that we have no doctor is my greatest worry as mayor," he states. "Whenever anyone is interested in the post and hears that he might have to do night duty once in a while, he runs a mile."

The government has now been [...] to turn to the whole problem o[f the] country doctor shortage. But there [are no] patent solutions, as the contr[oversy] surrounding one medical associa[tion's] proposal indicates.

The proposal, recently discussed i[n the] Bundestag, demanded that univer[sities] should give preference to those wou[ld-be] medical students promising to do [...] years' service as a country doctor [after] they qualified.

But there is no law to force [...] students to agree to any such th[ing,] however well-intentioned the propos[al.] Everybody in the Federal Republi[c is] guaranteed the freedom of professio[n and] can settle wherever he likes.

Apart from that, country doctors [fear] that their prestige would sink [to] rock-bottom as the result of such [...] "School-leavers would look up[on the] promise to serve in the country a[s the] price of their entry to university," [an] article in the February number of [Der] *praktische Arzt* complains. "The [...] population would think they were g[etting] only third-rate doctors."

As far as the doctors themselves [are] concerned, Dr Rainer Wicklmayr, [Min]ister of Labour, Health and Welfare [in the] Saar, has an even more extreme ide[a of] how to stop the flight from the co[untry.]

"The Health Ministers Conference [...] due to take place in May," he states. [...] of the points on the agenda must be [...] to give medical care organisation[s ...] opportunity of persuading doctors [...] to settle."

A spokesman for the National M[...]

Continued on page 5

■ HISTORY

1848 Frankfurt National Assembly heralded parliamentary democracy

Hamburger Abendblatt

Frankfurt's churchbells rang in celebration of German unity. Deeply moved, the 320 deputies of the first all-German national assembly walked through a throng of jubilant citizens from the Römer to the Paulskirche.

That evening a torchlight procession marked the end of festivities. German Particularism seemed to have come to an end on this 18 May 1848. The March Revolution had resulted in the peaceful establishment of parliamentary democracy.

Today, 125 years on, the celebrations at Frankfurt that day can only depress us as we know how events turned out. The reaction of the princes finally gained the upper hand, the hopes and confidence of the spring of '48 were replaced by the disappointment and resignation of the autumn and authoritarianism, or at least the desire for it, lived on until 1945, and not always to the benefit of the German people.

The entry of the deputies into the Paulskirche was little more than a moving ideological attempt to establish a political nation of the standing of Britain or France. Despite the national character of German intellectual life and the admiration we must display for it, this was only one of many chances which people did not take advantage of.

All ideas of German unity were slumbering when the French Revolution broke out. The signal from Paris first prompted admiration but this soon turned into abhorrence.

What is more, there was the question of who could unleash a revolution in Germany. There was no Mirabeau and no Cromwell. It was only the Napoleonic occupation that encouraged attempts to reform the German empire, especially those measures envisaged by Freiherr von Stein.

The feeling of powerlessness gave way to the idea that a reform of the political and social order could only be achieved if all German power was to be united, that is through national unity.

But the Congress of Vienna convened between September 1814 and June 1815 by the powers that had beaten Napoleon disappointed German hopes. The Congress was firmly in the grip of the reactionary governments of Prussia, Russia and Austria, who later united to form the Holy Alliance and protect European absolutism.

The need for reform in the Old World was not discussed at the Congress of Vienna. The victors merely argued about who was to receive what territory. The German Union was formed but this was no more than a loose amalgamation of fully sovereign German states. The only all-German organ was the Federal Diet in Frankfurt which was not a parliament but a congress for the envoys of the princes and free cities.

Fifteen years later, in July 1830, revolution once again broke out in Paris and the throne of Charles X, a Bourbon, was occupied by Louis Philippe, the "citizens' king" and "a man like you or I".

This event had important repercussions for Germany. The populace grew more energetic in their demands for constitutions and in their attacks upon the pillars of the establishment – the nobility, the army and the bureaucracy. Despite its failure the Polish uprising of 1830 and 1831 also encouraged this state of ferment.

But the German opposition remained divided and could not agree on aims. The local princes continued ruling as they had always done. Only in Bavaria and Baden did the rulers understand the signs of the times and grant their subjects a constitution and civil rights.

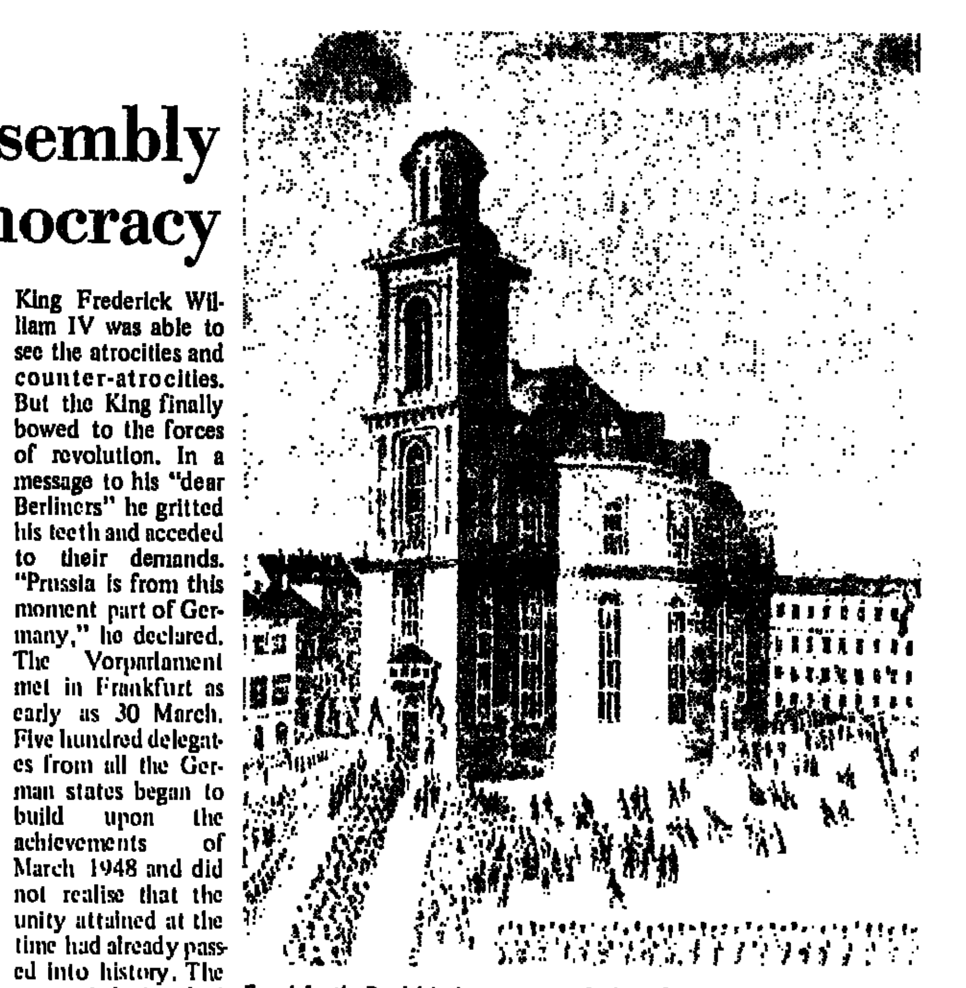
Many years passed and deputies and professors were long persecuted before any serious moves were made. But the pressure from below built up steadily. A new class grew up with the start of industrialisation – the workers, or in worse times the unemployed.

The storm slowly built up. There were bad harvests, slumps in wages and peasant revolts. It only needed a spark to set off the 1848 Revolution. Once again it came from Paris where the bourgeois king Louis Philippe was deposed on 22 February.

"Vive la république!" the French cried. The discontent that had built up over the years in Germany now burst forth. Students and workers revolted in Vienna on 13 March and the senile Chancellor Prince Metternich fled to London.

Five days later the storm broke in Berlin as well. Bloody battles raged around barricades erected near the palace. King Frederick William IV was able to see the atrocities and counter-atrocities. But the King finally bowed to the forces of revolution. In a message to his "dear Berliners" he gritted his teeth and acceded to their demands. "Prussia is from this moment part of Germany," he declared.

The Vorparlament met in Frankfurt as early as 30 March. Five hundred delegates from all the German states began to build upon the achievements of March 1948 and did not realise that the unity attained at the time had already passed into history. The propertied class had already begun to put the brake on revolution for fear of the unruly left-wingers in their ranks. Marx and Engels also chose this moment to publish their *Communist Manifesto* with the famous line: "Workers of the world, unite."



Frankfurt's Paulskirche, venue of the 1848 National Assembly

(Photos: Historia)

This was the situation under which the national assembly trooped into the Paulskirche on 18 May. There were no parties as we know them today. The composition of the assembly was as confused as the political set-up of the small German states.

The men who met in the Paulskirche were not representative of the populace of the German states. There were few workers or peasants amongst them. Four fifths of them were academics. The youngest deputy was 23, the oldest, writer Ernst Moritz Arndt, 79.

The enthusiasm and hopes of the deputies were greater than their political experience. No agreement could be reached on any issue. The radical democrats under Struve and Hecker demanded the immediate establishment of a federal state. But the liberals who made up the majority in Frankfurt were afraid to take the step. The professors wanted to settle the whole affair amicably with the princes.

But who was to head the new state? One man or a cabinet? A deputy or a confidant of the princes? Finally, what was to be done about Austria? Prince Schwarzenberg soon provided the answer. Vienna refused to have anything to do with the whole affair.

Because of the rivalry between Austria and Prussia the only solution was a small German union. Not to cut off all ties with Vienna, the National Assembly eventually appointed Archduke Johann of Austria as Imperial Administrator. This step did not please Prussia of course.

The dream of the Frankfurt "Professors Parliament" soon ended. A crisis involving foreign policy suddenly revealed the complete powerlessness of the deputies. This was the Schleswig-Holstein crisis. Denmark decided to annex the Duchy of Schleswig, Prussia bowed to the demands of the Frankfurt Assembly and declared war on the Danes.

Britain and Russia now intervened and pressed for a ceasefire. Faced by this dilemma, Prussia decided to pursue its own power interests and concluded the Peace Treaty of Malmö against the wishes of the indignant National Assembly.

On 5 September the National Assembly met in the Paulskirche to oppose the peace treaty by 238 votes to 221. On 16 September the same men accepted the treaty by 257 votes to 236 as they had no troops to continue hostilities. That was the beginning of the end. Because of its lack of power the National Assembly lost face before the whole German nation.

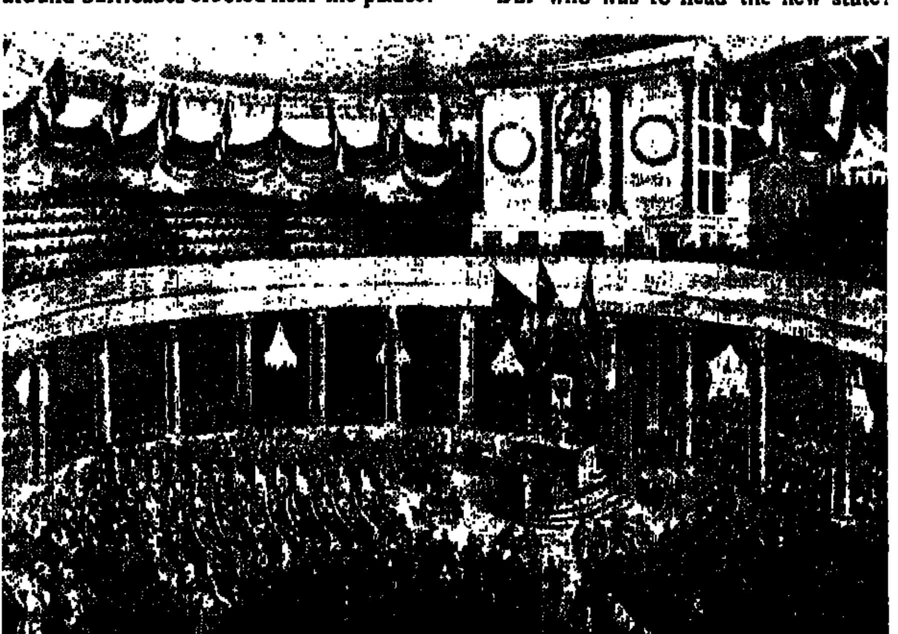
The October rising in Vienna was put down in an orgy of blood. Frederick William IV refused the offer of a German Imperial crown politely but firmly. In their disappointment the liberals left the National Assembly.

The achievements of the March Revolution were gradually declared null and void. A rump parliament met in Stuttgart before it was finally broken up. The attempt to achieve a national state by democratic means had failed.

A conservative Prussian *junker*, Otto von Bismarck, finally achieved everthing aimed at by the Frankfurt parliament. But that also marked the birth of the fatal belief – held by many Germans – that a strong man is needed to achieve anything in the political sphere. This false reasoning cost Germany her unity.

Hans-Jürgen Müller

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 17 May 1973)



The historic assembly in session – a contemporary artist's impression

Continued from page 4

Association in Cologne said that his organisation fully understood the concern expressed by country-dwellers. But, he added, a married doctor with children of school age is naturally interested to know where the nearest high school is.

"If there is no high school for miles, he will think twice before taking a post," the spokesman explained. "That is the reason for the shortage of medical care in the thinly-populated areas of Bavaria, Lower Saxony, the Eifel and the Rhineland Palatinate."

Most doctors want to spare their children a long journey to and from school every day. But they expect the sick to travel miles to attend their surgeries. Country-dwellers are only given equal treatment in one respect – they have to pay the same contributions to medical insurance schemes.

Ingeborg Lieret

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 May 1973)

■ COMMON MARKET

EEC economic polices to be put to the test

Successes and failures of European economic integration and the outlining of the nine-strong Community against world trading partners must be measured by the yardstick of the programmes and aims of the EEC.

Since December 1969 when the communique of The Hague Summit was issued the emphasis has been on *extension of the Community and financing EEC projects from Community resources.* These ideals have provided the guidelines for future development.

Last October the extensive communiqué of the Paris Summit became the new Community "Bible". This programme will be largely responsible for determining the process of integration in the course of this year, drawing up schedules and setting deadlines.

For the first time ever the most recent meeting of the Council of Foreign and Agriculture Ministers in Brussels threw light on the controversies surrounding Community development in the widest spheres. By the middle of the year, or by the latest at the end of 1973, these will be determining the subjects of debates.

This applies first and foremost for the Community's foreign relations, with matters such as the forthcoming Gatt conference in the foreground.

What M. Jobert, the French Foreign Minister, had to offer his partners in Brussels as "European arrogance" and anti-American feeling, went beyond all comparable attitudes ever expressed by the French. What is the point of holding *the Gatt talks at all if France is not* prepared to discuss the lowering of customs barriers and agricultural affairs, and in addition wants to link currency reform matters closely with trade negotiations?

The other EEC countries are keen to create a more liberal trading situation and this is likely to produce heated discussions before the Community can produce its joint report at the end of June, according to the provisions of the Summit.

In other foreign policy spheres it is becoming clearer that the Nine can hardly make trade concessions if at the same time less liberal members are trying to maintain virtually the full protective force of EEC closed markets.

This is particularly true with regard to the Mediterranean policy where the essential export requirements of the Med. countries clash with EEC agricultural protection measures. The joint meeting of Foreign and Agriculture Ministers to *thrash this out brought little progress.*

Agriculture is vital to the internal cohesion of the Community and its foreign relations as a whole. The somewhat superior attitude adopted by Foreign Ministers is hard to understand. If foreign relations with regard to this matter are left to Agriculture Ministers it is on the cards that little room will be left for concessions.

Time is tight with regard to the Community's Med. policy and its relationships with associated developing countries – the expansion of the Community to nine members and the expiry of treaties with countries with associate status at the end of the year mean that new agreements will have to be reached. The way things are going no one is clear how the EEC is to reach rational joint decisions to meet the deadlines.

That Hans Apel, State secretary for European affairs at the Foreign Office, is relatively optimistic can be ascribed to his comparing the situation to that of the internal expansion of the EEC.

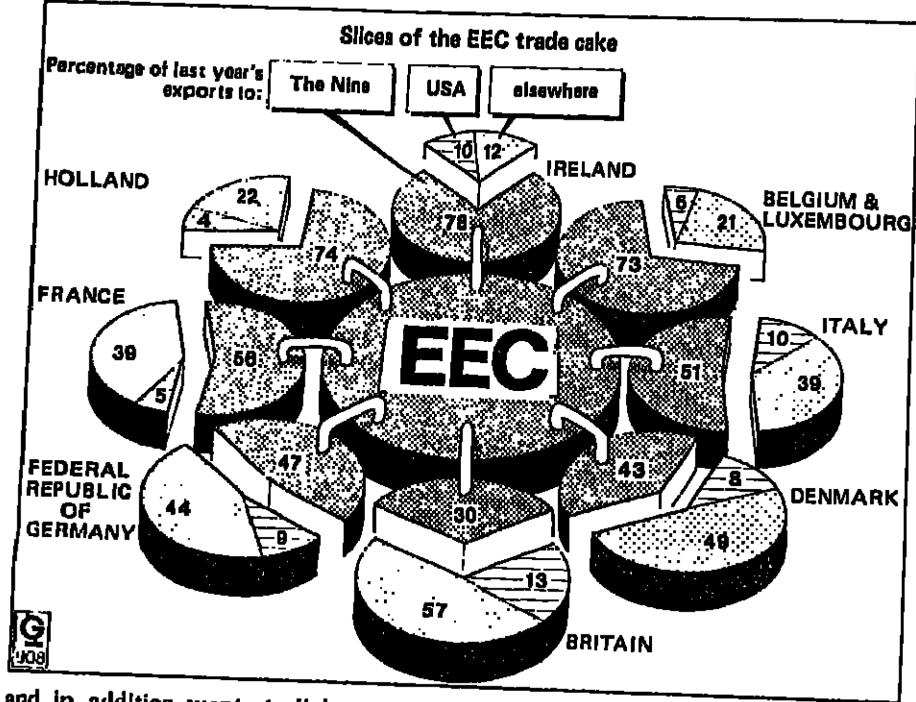
Decisions must be taken in the second half of the year on the two most important projects on the cards, regional policy and the second stage in the creation of the economic and monetary union.

In such a situation where the European Community presents the picture of a great cleft in the midst of a hard-currency group with fixed exchange rate and on the other hand three partners that, economically speaking, are problem children, a second stage of the economic and monetary union can be little more than an attempt to repair the failings of the first stage, of whose plans scarcely any have been carried out.

This country's stabilisation programme, moreover, could create further tension in the EEC if the other eight countries do not take similarly stringent steps to restore pricing discipline. Just how the Nine plan to carry out the projects agreed at the Summit, with the close connection obtaining between financial solidarity for the regional policy and currency discipline, is for the moment their secret.

The interim balance of the catalogue of plans put forward at the Paris Summit, the first contours of which were due to become clear by mid-year, cannot be drawn up till the end of 1973. In the next seven months the Community will face many acid tests. *Eberhard Wisdorff*

(Die Welt, 17 May 1973)



EEC must tackle inflation

The European Parliament has called on the EEC Commission to produce a draft EEC package on economic and monetary stabilisation without delay to be set before the Council of Ministers for their deliberation.

The draft should contain measures for ensuring stability, economic growth, a high level of employment and economic balance in the countries of the Community. This, the Parliament in Strasbourg says, would make it easier to coordinate the economic policies of the Nine and would act as a useful complement to the economic and industrial policies in the individual States.

According to Hermann Schwörer (CDU) the aim set by the EEC Council of Ministers in December last, to keep price increases down to four per cent at the most, had proved impracticable, and now it was essential to work hard to ensure that the increase should not be twice that level! He expressed his doubts that all member countries were ready to take the necessary steps to curb inflation.

Italy's Communist member Signor Fabbrini called the economic policy guidelines drawn up for 1973 by the EEC Commission a fairy story. He said their calculations were practically worthless.

Herr Haferkamp, this country's representative responsible for economic and currency policies, stressed that the inflationary trend was not only dangerous but also anti-social. In place of isolated individual efforts to fight inflation joint action must be taken. "Some of the measures required are quite rigorous," Haferkamp said.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 11 May 1973)

Lebsanft goes to FRG Brussels mission

Ulrich Lebsanft, 57, will go to Brussels in mid-June as the new ambassador of the Federal Republic to the European Community. He replaces Hans-Georg Sachs, who is being re-called to take up the post of second State secretary to the Foreign Office.

Ministerial Director Ulrich Lebsanft, has been head of the department for foreign economics, development aid and European economic integration at the Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt) since 1970. In his own words Lebsanft has "been at head office too long" – namely since 1959.

Prior to that he had been at the Federal Republic diplomatic missions in Spain and later in Mexico. Then he was concerned with personnel and administrative problems at the Foreign Office in Bonn.

Herr Lebsanft is a lawyer by profession. He also studied economics to the degree that was normal in his student days. He

(Photo: dpa)

speaks English, Spanish and a little French, but admits that the latter needs brushing up.

He owes no allegiance to any political party, and would prefer to be regarded as non-political.

(Die Welt, 17 May 1973)

Soames speaks on US-EEC relationship

Süddeutsche Zeitung

The accusation made by the U[nited] States that the European Comm[unity] is too concerned with regional interes[ts has] been firmly rejected by the Eur[opean] Parliament in its debate on the relatio[ns] between Europe and America.

Vice-President of the Commission Christopher Soames, who is respo[nsible] for the EEC's foreign relations, ga[ve a] detailed explanation of why inte[nsive] talks with the United States at a h[igh] level on the many outsta[nding] matters concerning trade, curre[ncy,] energy, foreign policy and defen[ce were] essential. In this context great hop[es are] being placed on the planned v[isit of] President Nixon to Europe i[n the] autumn.

Sir Christopher said that it w[as a] misunderstanding on the part of t[he] United States that led to the accu[sation] that Europe concentrated unduly o[n] regional interests. This accusation [had] clearly been levelled in Nixon's spe[ech on] the state of the world as well as in [the] previous foreign-policy speech by [his] special adviser Dr Henry Kissinger.

In Europe, Sir Christopher Soames [said,] a continental market without c[ustoms] tariffs had been set up. It was of th[e same] kind as the United States already ha[d].

The Community, he said, had co[ntribu]ted greatly to the expansion of [world] trade beyond its borders and ma[de the] success of the Kennedy Round pos[sible.] Europe had been the first to set [up a] system of preferences to aid exports [from] developing countries.

He stressed that the EEC was r[eady] to give capital and technical aid [to the] poorest parts of the world wi[thin the] framework of its finance and trade [aid] programme. This was designed to [help] these countries help themselves to [their] full potential.

In the forthcoming multilateral t[rade] negotiations, he said, the Comm[unity] must work towards a twin aim: further liberalisation of trade [among] industrial countries and at the same [time] the creation of greater trade potential [for] developing nations.

Trade, monetary problems, fuel [and] power supply, foreign policy and def[ence] were described by Sir Christopher [as] factors of equal importance within [the] framework of overall relations betw[een] Europe and America. On the other h[and] it would be wrong to regard [the] interdependence of these various ma[tters] as a reason for lumping them toge[ther] into one round of talks.

Alluding to suggestions tha[t] US-Europe bodies should be crea[ted or] the Kissinger proposal for a new Atla[ntic] charter accepted, Sir Christopher said [that] what was needed most at present [was] effective practical efforts.

While America and Russia were able [to] negotiate as one in many vital poli[tical] spheres Europe still lacked the ability [to] speak and act as an entity, he said. [In] many spheres Europe worked in uni[son] but foreign policy was by and large [the] exception. It was essential, in his opi[nion,] for spheres in which Europe acted [as one] to be expanded while those where [the] Nine were nine separate countries [should] be contracted.

This, he said, was essential now tha[t we] were in the transitional phase betw[een] American domination and a balan[ced] partnership.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 May 197[3])

■ THE ECONOMY

High hopes for shares dashed as stock market slides

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

In the second week of May there was an unpleasant surprise for shareholders as the share index plunged to its lowest level this year. At the beginning of the year many experts were forecasting that shares would be up by ten to fifteen per cent this year before September was out. They were not prepared to make predictions beyond that.

At first it seemed as though they would be proved right. The share index climbed by close on ten per cent, and that at a time when the disruption of Western currencies was still exercising its evil effects. In addition interest rates were beginning to rise even further.

All the burdens imposed, such as higher interest rates, the ban on foreigners acquiring West German shares and the higher level of pay increases than expected, did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the stock market.

Why were the stock market clairvoyants wrong? Just like the Bonn government they underestimated the extent of inflation in this country. After the introduction of the EEC block-foating most banks made adjustments toallow for a gradual removal of restrictions. But in the light of rampant inflation the Bundesbank found itself in no position to slacken its hold.

On the contrary the Bank in Frankfurt applied the credit squeeze even tighter. Sales by finance houses of their holdings in fixed-interests bonds in order to acquire cash led to a drop on the stock market.

Since then careful stock has been taken of the possible profits for 1973. The devaluation of the dollar was just as difficult to predict at the beginning of this year as wage-scale increases of more than nine per cent. But neither of these two factors has hit the stock market as much as the government's recently announced measures to cool off the economy are likely to do.

The stabilisation levy and strict limitation of depreciation benefits hit directly at company profits. Time will tell whether they also lead to a cutback in investments.

For shareholders the crucial question is whether share prices will continue to fall, and if so by how much. Is now the right time to sell? There is no generally applicable answer to his. The great Federal Republic shares, such as those in chemicals companies, are from the international point of view good value for money. But it is no use foreigners' being well aware of this if they are not allowed to buy chemicals shares at these bargain prices.

The market is no longer filled with speculative purchases of these shares, and has not been for some time. It is difficult to sell them to cash in on profits already made, since very few people acquired their chemicals shares at a lower rate than today's. A similar situation applies to shares in supply services, such as RWE (electricity).

An exception is a number of special shares whose rate is inflated by speculative activity. It is high time the rates for these shares were brought down to a more realistic level.

Then the case of Rheinstahl shares must be taken into consideration. In the past week they came close to 125 Marks, that is to say the price that Thyssen officially offered for them. But we should not be deceived by these facts, which would seem to justify a rate of 180 to 200 Marks for Rheinstahl shares. Rates are affected far more by a company's profits than its substance. Where Rheinstahl is concerned these are slim.

Kurt Wendt

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 May 1973)

Consumer durables

Of European Community countries families in the Federal Republic and Netherlands are best equipped with consumable durables. An investigation carried out by the Ifo economic research institute in Munich dealt with the possession of cars, deep freezers, fridges, washing machines, TV sets and dishwashers in the Federal Republic, France, Italy, The Netherlands and Belgium.

Italy came top only with regard to dishwashing machines and black-and-white TV sets. In this country eight per cent of households have an electric dishwasher, 79 per cent a washing machine.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 16 May 1973)

Researchers researched

In the Federal Republic, including West Berlin, there are approximately 3,000 market researchers. Of these about 1,800 are company market researchers in industry and commerce. The figures have been published in a report by the National Association of Market Researchers (BVM), which has 800 members, at its annual general meeting.

Last year 120 institutes and fifty market research advisers carried out research contracts worth in all 225 million Marks. Together with the market research departments of companies this country's businesses spend about 300 million Marks annually on investigating markets, according to BVM.

The BVM, which was set up in 1965, has to fulfil the role of boosting the reputation of the market research business. 240 highly qualified and experienced members are at work on this aspect.

In her closing speech Professor Elisabeth Noelle-Neumann, the head of thee Allensbach Demographic Institute, expressed her regrets that so far the scope for new ideas which is inherent in market research had not been recognised and exploited to the full.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 3 May 1973)

Savings up despite low interest rates

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Money investments brought private householders only about four per cent interest on average in 1972, according to the Bundesbank's monthly report for May. If State aid for accumulation of capital wealth in private hands is taken into account the yield was about five per cent.

According to the Bank in Frankfurt the yield on income for private investors failed to cancel out losses through inflation last year. This is still true when the tax benefits on certain forms of saving are taken into account.

According to the Bundesbank the structure of private investment last year showed a more strongly marked tendency towards the more profitable investments than had been the case in previous years. Nonetheless interest-free investments and those with unfavourable interest rates still enjoyed a large proportion of capital investment.

The Bundesbank said that at the end of 1972 the amount of capital investment from private sources totalled about 630 milliard Marks, including shares at day-to-day quotations on the stock exchange. Eleven per cent are cash deposits and sight deposits, bringing nil interest, twenty-four per cent are on savings accounts with the normal legal period of notice for withdrawal, the interest on which is not particularly high, eight per cent goes on savings in building societies with interest at around 2.5 to three per cent and sixteen per cent on life insurances and pension schemes, on which it is difficult to ascertain the rate of interest.

The total amount made available for savings from private incomes last year, according to the Bundesbank was 75,500 million Marks – twenty per cent more than in 1971. This meant that savings were up by more than the increase in real incomes – eleven per cent.

The Bundesbank explains that special payments from public sources such as the repayment of the ten-per-cent tax surcharge and payments by hospital funds to pensioners as well as the bringing forward of pension adjustments boosted savings in 1972.

In addition to this State promotion of capital wealth schemes for the private individual was gaining ground.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 17 May 1973)

Inflation eats away at savings taxpayers' association claims

The disturbing extent of price rises is imposing intolerable burdens on wage and salary-earners and also on investors. This all has to do with the progression of the income-tax scale and the fact that despite the constant rise in incomes the amount that is exempted from taxation has remained the same.

The State, of course, benefits from these hidden tax increases. According to the Karl Bräuer Institute, attached to the Confederation of Federal Republic Taxpayers, the average tax on the average income of a married a person without children in 1958 was only 2.7 per cent. By 1969 this had risen to 10.6 per cent and this year, though the scale has remained the same, it will be 13.2 per cent.

Blue and white-collar workers as well as civil servants are caught up in this progression. Whenever they receive an increase in real income they feel the pinch of taxation. But when higher pay does no more than cancel out the effects of higher prices the taxpayer has to pay sums to inland revenue that he would not actually enjoy as greater purchasing power.

But savers are hit the hardest. Those who have put money aside lose part of it every year through inflation. Interest rates today are rarely high enough to act as a hedge against inflation. Our tax laws add to this effect.

A person who has 20,000 Marks on deposit at five per cent interest enjoys an income of 1,000 Marks a year from it. With monetary depreciation at seven per cent the real value of the deposit declines by 1,400 Marks a year, so the investor is already 400 Marks out of pocket. But he has to declare the full 1,000 Marks for taxation. Say the rate was 25 per cent, that would be a further 250 Marks. So the total loss on such an investment would be 650 Marks a year.

DIE ZEIT

Taxpayer and investors feel they are being taken for fools: How much longer are they to be expected to pay tax on income which is actually *negative*?

For years the argument was always that in the interests of keeping the law as simple as possible a Mark is a Mark is a Mark! The Mark that buys less today than it did yesterday can still not be treated as anything but a Mark. The government and Bundesbank had legal backing for this precept.

But the decision by the finance office was taken at a time when inflation was only about three and a half per cent per annum.

When the rate of depreciation is seven per cent more problems arise. It would be a mistake to say that because a Mark is no longer necessarily 100 Pfennigs the law must be thrown out of the window. The government must weigh up whether, and by how much, the burden can be alleviated without jeopardising the law.

In most European countries people are protected against latest taxation of this kind. Experts state that the Federal Republic is the only State that has not made some tax concessions in the past ten years to take the sting out of the tail of inflation.

Something must be done. The government will either have to attack inflation with greater resolution or make some kind of provision to cancel out the effects of inflation. Action must be taken soon.

Rudolf Herlt

(Die Zeit, 4 May 1973)

Public administration overspends, report claims

Federal Audit Office reports recently shown to the press at the Academy for Industrial Executives in Bad Harzburg claim that more than thirty milliard Marks of public money are spent needlessly every year.

Herr Morell, a high official in the department, explained that, "even considering that some wastage is unavoidable in public administration, fifteen milliard Marks too much are spent annually."

"Morell estimates that every employee in the public services spends 55 working days a year on unproductive duties. As many as 16.5 million working days a year are therefore lost in Federal administration, not counting the armed forces, the railways and the postal service." This amounts to a loss of 3.75 milliard Marks. The figure rises to 27.35 milliard Marks when all regional bodies are included.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 9 May 1973)

■ **ENVIRONMENT**

Action stations for Baltic Pollution Study Year

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Environmental conservation and marine pollution are household words, yet to this day not a single sea has been systematically surveyed with an eye to ascertaining its environmental bill of health.

The first sea to be given the once-over will be the Baltic, which is due for scrutiny next year under the aegis of the International Commission on Environmental Studies in Copenhagen and the governments of surrounding countries.

In 1975, Baltic Pollution Study Year, all available research vessels, laboratories and scientists will join forces to track down all conceivable pollution factors in all areas and at all levels of the Baltic.

The aim is to compile such comprehensive data that it will prove possible to come to a conclusion on the entire pollution cycle and on ways and means of bringing it to a halt.

One of the centres of research work will be Kiel, where the university department of marine science, located on the Baltic coast, will be deeply involved in a number of Baltic pollution study projects. The department boasts not only laboratories but also research vessels of its own.

Research scientists plan to check the water, organisms and organic matter suspended in it, seabed and seawater fauna for potentially toxic heavy metals such as mercury, cadmium, lead and copper, for petroleum and petroleum by-products, for pesticides and for effluent.

They will be determining not only the existence of toxins but also their progress through the marine food cycle and the extent to which they are accumulated in the tissue of larger creatures.

Certain insecticides are known to accumulate in the fatty tissue and livers of fish, whereas mercury and cadmium are mainly to be found in their ovaries and gonads.

Thus only these organs need to be analysed to determine whether or not these toxins are present. For that matter only these organs need to be avoided as unfit for human consumption.

As far as most toxins go, though, no one really has any idea of their progress and where they lodge in marine organisms. This is why research on this topic is of fundamental importance.

Pioneer work of similar significance is to be conducted with the aim of ascertaining the effect of toxic heavy metals. For the first time ever not only their existence but also their chemical condition is to be determined.

The extent to which many metals are poisonous depends on whether they are present as pure metals or in chemical compounds. Surprisingly enough, mercury as a metal is fairly harmless, and even in mineral compounds, together with sulphur, for instance, it is by no means as toxic as when it is contained in organic molecules. In organic compounds mercury is thousands of times more poisonous.

As the amount of mercury in the Northern Baltic has increased considerably in recent years as a result of the influx in industrial effluent from Sweden, an investigation of the forms in which the metal is present in this region might well prove particularly important.

Analysis of this kind is, of course, uncommonly costly and complex. This is likewise true of most chemical checks to be conducted in the Baltic, since the toxins invariably form part and parcel of the seawater and are present in only hundredths or thousandths of a per cent or even less.

In determining such infinitesimal concentrations errors and omissions can easily occur. Trials conducted along the North Sea coast indicate that the actual lead count in the atmosphere can be several hundred per cent more or less than the figure suggested by analysis.

Standardisation of methods of analysis is certainly a desideratum that can be considered of immediate and fundamental importance.

Currents in the Baltic are also to be studied more intensively than ever before in order to determine how much Baltic water finds its way into the North Sea, how much contaminated matter might be stored at greater depths and whether or not the lower depths of the Baltic are increasingly threatened by decomposition and decay.

For this hydrographic work the flagship of this country's research fleet, the *Meteor*, will conduct operations alongside the *Anton Dohrn* for several weeks in the Baltic, compiling data concerning the dynamics of the Baltic waters.

In all probability the Soviet Union will also be deploying one of its large research vessels in the Baltic. Preliminary work is mainly being conducted by two working parties: the action plan group headed by Kiel marine chemist Professor Grasshoff and concerned with laboratory facilities and equipment and a working group headed by Professor Bolin of Stockholm that is dealing with research planning and coordination.

Harald Steinert

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 May 1973)

Salt-water slices

Salt water can be cut into wafer-thin slices with the aid of a centrifuge specially developed for the purpose at Kiel University department of physical chemistry.

By means of substantial centrifugal forces surface layers of salt water can be sliced off for chemical analysis – and the layers are a mere thousandth of a millimetre thick, a good deal thinner than a sheet of paper.

This water-slicer is to be employed in environmental work. Exchanges between air and water take place in what might be called the topsoil of the sea, and this is the slicer's target.

The seven seas, marine scientists stress, are the world's major supplier of toxic carbon monoxide.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 1 May 1973)

Tidal early warning systen off Heligoland

Maybe next year this countr[y] boast an additional, man-[made] island in the form of a perma[nent] research station on tubular steel [legs] anchored north-west of the North [Sea] holiday island of Heligoland.

The project has been commiss[ioned] from a Hamburg engineering firm by [the] Ministry of Research and Technolo[gy] Bonn.

It resembles an oil rig but is design[ed to] stay put. The research island will serv[e as a] seaborne laboratory for testing oce[ano]graphical measuring equipment, buoy[s and] instruments under high-sea condition[s].

At the same time it will serve [as a] research station and collation poin[t for] the planned North Sea measuring network, which will comprise a sys[tem of] giant buoys relaying data required.

The islet will be located o[n the] outskirts of this country's terr[itorial] waters at 54 degrees 42 minutes N and 7 degrees 13 minutes East. It [will] accommodate not only measuring d[evices] and radio equipment but also ho[use a] permanent crew of engineers, a co[ok,] steward and a team of scientists.

Details are still being worked o[ut. The] permanent rig calls for a surp[rising] amount of thought. The seabed 10[0 ...] below has already been given [the] once-over by the Bundeswehr re[search] vessel *Planet*, but another borehole [must] be drilled to make absolutely sure [that] the site is as sound as the r[ock of] Gibraltar.

Wave pressure and undercurren[ts are] being investigated by the F[ederal] Republic Hydrographical Institu[te,] the University of Bochum, and Llo[yd's of] London are working out safety [pre]cautions for the crew.

Not until the results of this prelim[inary] work are known can the project be [given] the go-ahead.

For people who live along the [North] Sea coast the artificial island [will] represent the nerve centre of a[n] warning system affording add[itional] protection from flooding.

In the past storms have descend[ed on] the coast without prior wa[rning.] Significant wave movements and m[easur]able current build-ups take place o[ut at] sea, and now that regular measure[ments] are in the offing it is hoped to be a[ble to] spot likely freak tides in time.

(Die Welt, 25 April 1[973])

Humble herring faces extinction

The cod war off Iceland is symptomatic of the difficulties facing fishing on the high seas everywhere. Good fishing grounds are growing fewer and further between. Even the herring runs a fair risk of becoming as uncommon a customer as the salmon.

In the North Atlantic, the North Sea and the Skagerrak an annual average of 800,000 tons of herrings was trawled until the mid-sixties.

With the aid of up-to-the-minute radar and sophisticated trawling techniques a million and a half tons a year were caught for several years in the run, but this was overstepping the mark.

By 1970 the total annual herring catch of all northern fishing fleets had declined to 600,000 tons. This country alone gets through 200,000 tons of them a year.

The threat of extinction faces the humble herring, claims Professor Schmidt of the Hamburg Deep-Sea Fishing Institute. Unless action is taken soon the herring will be fished out of existence, and other species of fish are in much the same position.

One of the main fishing regions is the North Atlantic (up to three quarters of the world's fishing is conducted in the Northern hemisphere).

Fishing grounds are being exploited up to the hilt and the sizes of shoals of edible fish are growing smaller and smaller and stocks of cod and hake in the Atlantic and herring in the North Sea are plummeting.

The decline in numbers and changes in migratory habits of certain "popular" fish leave the fishing industry with no option but to continually improve their fleets and equipment, to modernise ways and means of locating shoals and to travel further and further afield in the search for catches. "Warfare" can hardly fail to ensue.

For economic reasons a trawler captain has to try to make the maximum catch in the shortest possible time, and in order to offset high capital investment and operational costs, not to mention long and unproductive journeys to and from grounds additional emphasis must be placed on mechanisation and automation, the industry claims.

This is the declared aim of the integrated system pursued by a consortium of trawler-owners in this country.

The system combines the various and complex stages in the process of fishing, ranging from location of fish, selection of a lucrative shoal and steering the ideal course to optimum deployment of the nets.

The idea is to computerise the entire process, thus relieving the captain of decisions that he has hitherto made on the basis of experience or custom.

Regional searches for shoals are conducted via satellite and the results continually entered into charts. Once in the vicinity the trawlers sound out fish horizontally from the ship and vertically from the trawl nets. Gradually it is hoped to improve radar to plug all conceivable gaps.

Like the staff of airport control towers the fishing industry will then know exactly what fish are where at any given time. Fish movements under water will be plotted like flight movements in the air.

Yet at the same time as the industry is intent on increasing catches marine biologists are sounding a warning note. It is high time effective measures were taken to ensure that fish stocks are safeguarded.

The much-vaunted inexhaustible riches of the oceans would seem to be a rumour. Fishing stocks are being depleted with wild optimism at the expense of future catches, says Professor Korringa of the Dutch Fishery Research Institute.

Professor Schmidt of Hamburg reckons that if stocks of herring are even to be maintained at their present level an immediate embargo on herring fishing ought to be imposed.

Gerhard Taube

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 5 May 1973)

Emergency ID card for all

Everyone in the country is to [be] issued with a special ID [card] corresponding to the old army dog ta[g]. The Ministries of Transport and He[alth] are currently working out the details [in] Bonn.

Precise information is not yet availa[ble] but it is felt conceivable that, a[fter] consultation with the Ministry of t[he] Interior, the data involved could [be] incorporated in the new-style natio[nal] identity cards.

Action on a matter that wo[uld] unquestionably improve the chances [of] survival of a person seriously injured [in,] say, a traffic accident can thus [be] discounted before next year.

According to the Health Minis[try] spokesman the emergency ID card w[ill] contain only essential information, s[uch] as details of major operations, vacci[na]tions, immunities, allergies and readin[ess] to serve as an organ donor for transpla[nts].

But a fair amount of negotiation nee[ds] to be conducted before the final shape o[f] the ID card will become apparent.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 May 1973)

MUSIC

Modern chamber music reaches a dead end

DIE WELT

Modern chamber music has reached a dead end. It can no longer go forwards but it does not wish to retrace its steps either. The Witten Festival for Modern Chamber Music provided clear proof of this fatal situation which observers could always see coming.

Five concerts were held during the two-day festival, featuring 28 works from 27 composers, including ten premieres and five items performed for the first time in the Federal Republic.

The Festival was therefore large enough to gain some idea of the present situation of chamber music, especially as the programme offered a representative cross-section instead of concentrating on specific styles.

The avantgarde from both East and West, Asia and America, choirs and solo cellos, minimal music and an infinite number of other styles featured in their deceptive uniformity.

But the present situation is far from uniform. Chamber music is being torn into many different directions and with such violence that there is reason to fear for its further existence.

The "Intermodulation" people from Cambridge for instance wish to press forward with all their might. Their instrumentation is economic for chamber music – piano, viola, bassoon, soprano saxophone and percussion – but their arsenal of electronic weapons, their synthesizers and delaying systems swell their sound so much that it could resound throughout even the largest concert hall.

This chamber music depends on how many millimetres the knobs of their amplifier are turned.

But it is this of all groups that retraces traditional elements. Robin Thompson played Terry Riley's *Dorian Reeds* for soprano saxophone and delaying system, this modern version of the Pied Piper of Hamelin whereby the interpreter can stride through the hall accompanied by the echo of his own music.

The premiere of Roger Smalley's *Memories* also revealed that there was still a special place for dance elements and whispering piano tremoli amidst the trickling cacophonies.

But the retreat is evident when composers start to introduce the various instruments to illustrate their idiosyncrasies and the possibilities they offer.

Dieter Acker's *Marginalia* and Tilo Medek's *Shadowplay*, both for solo cello, were premiered by Siegfried Palm. Medek's rich baritone *cantilene*, interrupted only by short and colourful snatches of the flageolet, are reminiscent of gentle sonatas with elfin magic while Acker's arpeggio artistry draws on Sarasate's gypsy melodies.

The composers were tempted to write virtuoso-like music because of Palm's virtuosity but this reveals the main dilemma – instruments have had little new to be discovered since the virtuosos of the Romantic age. Where artistry has degenerated into an end in itself, it is irrelevant whether the arpeggios are in a major or minor key or a totally chromatic scale.

Half a minute is all I've time for is a new work by Morton Feldman, a seconds-long series of four chords which was inserted like a transmission signal between the various items performed at the opening concert of the Warsaw Music Workshop.

The Polish ensemble also premiered *One piano and eight hands* by their director Zygmunt Krauze. The four instrumentalists crowded around a piano and hammered away at the keys in an apparently unorganised manner.

The wealth of merging particles does not form one great whole but leads instead to selective listening – and this was Krauze's whole purpose. He wants his listeners to pick out the passage they like best and arrange it into a work of their own. Modern vocal music – or, more accurately, consonant music – was represented at its very best by a concert of the Stuttgart Schola Cantorum under Herr Gottwald. Heinz Hollinger's *Dona nobis pacem* for twelve voices made a strong impression on the audience in view of its gradual sound shifts and permutations.

Reinhard Beuth

(Die Welt, 10 May 1973)

Siemens endow music award

Munich industrialist Ernst von Siemens celebrated his seventieth birthday in April by inaugurating a musical award worth one hundred thousand Swiss francs. The first holder of the prize will be Benjamin Britten.

Ernst von Siemens will present Britten with the award, one of the most valuable in the musical world, at a ceremony that will probably take place at the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts this October.

The Ernst von Siemens Music Prize will be awarded every year by a foundation set up for this purpose in Zug, Switzerland. It will be presented alternately to individual musicians and ensembles, conservatories or institutes for the training of young musicians.

The individual prize will be awarded to persons whose compositions, interpretations, written or educational work has benefited music and encouraged the love of music.

Two ensembles have already been nominated for next year's group award. They are Nicolaus Harnoncourt's Concentus Musicus of Vienna and Heinz Holliger's ensemble in Basle. The foundation jury which selects the prizewinners is headed by Walter Strebi.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 16 May 1973)

Nuremberg Oper[a] unearths talent

Nuremberg Opera House hope[s] have enhanced its cultural rep[...] tion by discovering 24-year-old Jo[...] Brettingham-Smith, a British pupil [...] highly-rated Korean composer Isang Y[un].

After entering parts of the score of [...] one-act opera *Death of Cuchulain* for a[n] opera competition, Brettingham-Sm[ith] was asked by Nuremberg Opera House [to] compose a fresh work. The excerpts [...] the opera, based on a play by Willi[am] Butler Yates, were considered adequa[te] proof of his ability.

Nuremberg Opera House received o[...] forty entries by the closing date [...] February, among them oddities like [a] taped whistle concerto or the story of [a] yodelling Alpine former who became a[n] opera star.

The six works surviving a strict sift[ing] process formed the basis for t[he] Contemporary Opera Festival produ[ced] by Wolfgang Gayler with the help of t[he] Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra [and] soloists from the Opera House.

The Festival reflected all the tre[nds] affecting contemporary opera. Only tw[o] of the six composers adhered to operat[ic] tradition – Jolyon Brettingham-Smi[th] and 30-year-old Peter Förtig fro[m] Freiburg, a pupil of Fortner and Hube[r].

Förtig's opera *Der Nekromant* [...] based on an antique theme [...] immediately attracted attention bec[ause] of its tight, dramatically exciting mu[sical] language.

Brettingham-Smith only devoted h[im]self completely to music four years [...] after finishing his philosophy cours[e] [...] Cambridge. He has the knack of putt[ing] even the most subtle events to music. [...] composition is restless and always ter[se] and the singing develops from spe[ech] without exaltation.

In its verdict the jury stated that it [...] devoted thorough attention to the wo[rk] of 32-year-old Jürgen Weimer, a teac[her] at Würzburg State Conservatory, [...] Dieter Kaufmann of Vienna, also 32.

Weimer's composition *Schöne ne[ue] Musik*, which was only available as a tape, seems promising, as does the story. In [a] totalitarian State opinions may not b[e] expressed in word, only sung according [to] a prearranged pattern. This of course leads to conflict and catastrophe.

Arghyris Kounadis' *The Town* had to be left out as it is a scenically envisaged work with blasts of wind, bursts of motor noise, improvisations and cascades of percussion which can only be understood when accompanied by their visual counterparts, mobiles and dances.

Martin Gümbel's *Allerweltstheater* intended to demostrate the frontiers between the stage and auditorium but this too fell by the wayside.

Eduart Gerner

(Die Welt, 7 May 1973)

Cologne art auction

The Seventh Cologne Art Sale [...] open in the city's Kunsthalle [...] September and continue to 9 October. The number of participants has been raised to forty for the first time and only contemporary works will be exhibited.

A number of American guests, among them Emmerich, Weber and Mul[...], will be represented at the art [...] alongside European galleries such [as] Boschofberger, Sperone and Wide White Space.

Graphical items will be present[ed in a] special section of the exhibition [...] accompanying programme plans [...] of rarely-seen films by creative artists of the Classical and contemporary avant-garde.

(Die Welt, 2 May 1973)

Hot jazz satisfies Hamburg fans

Hamburg, the stronghold of trad jazz, recently staged the sixth International Hot Jazz Meeting. Even the opening lived up to the expectations placed in such a Meeting as hot music resounded through the four halls of Winterhuder Fährhaus where the Jazzband Ball was held.

The atmosphere was even hotter than the music and the jazz-lovers clapped, whistled and danced. Fifteen bands kept their audiences in a good mood. And it was the mood and atmosphere that were most important at this Meeting.

The musical aspects often took a back seat. The Hagaw Association from Warsaw, the highlight of the evening as far as jazz connoisseurs were concerned, even seemed to make a principle of this. Their technically brilliant music became a vehicle of humour, show and amusement.

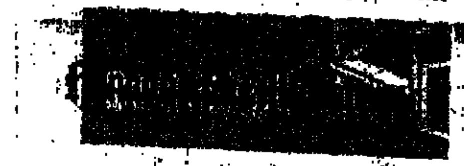
Hagaw displayed their usual high standard of parody, stepdance artistry and innumerable musical jokes which can also warm the heart of music-lovers who do not like hot jazz. Andrzey Rasiewic, the singer and star of the band, and his fellow-musicians were able to hold their audience until the early hours of the morning.

No hot jazz meeting in Hamburg is complete without a thorough-going river-boat shuffle of course. Two steamers were hired for the aficionados of hot jazz. Music-lovers who did not plan on missing anything also turned up for a morning session. German gypsy music was given a good deal of scope. The Schnuckenack-Reinhard Quintet and the Häns'che-Weiss-Quintet each gave a concert.

The Hot Jazz Meeting's main concert was also the finale. The concert – "Hot Jazz in Britain Today" – was held at the newly-opened Congress Centre and all three thousand seats were sold.

The Rod Mason-Ian Wheeler Band, unknowns in this country, started the evening off. But the atmosphere of the hall was so cool and elegant that it took some time for any real atmosphere to generate.

The second act was the band of Humphrey Lyttleton, introduced as the



grand seigneur of British jazz. Their music was slick but it was easy to gain the impression that the grand seigneur was trying to make up for the lack of freshness about the music by supplying gestures of his own. Dave Green, the band's double-bass player, deserves a mention. Through his skilful performance he managed to put new life into tired musical forms.

Max Collie's Rhythm Aces had managed to [...] at other events arranged during the Hot Jazz Meeting – and they lived up well to their reputation at the main concert.

The audience was well turned on by the time at Aces made way for the Crane River Jazzband, a revived group consisting of trumpeters Sonny Morris and Ken Colyer and clarinettist Monty Sunshine. Their pleasing arrangements and well-known titles from a bygone age soon had the audience on their side.

There would have been no end to the encores if Chris Barber's Jazz and Blues Band had not been next on the programme. His current group consists mainly of young musicians. Barber's [...] much of what is true for the whole of the Hot Jazz Meeting and the whole of trad jazz. The musicians' styles are for the most part not homogenous.

They are trying to enrich the music, look for new ways and eventually stumble across the limits set on traditional jazz in current-day composition. In his music for example Chris Barber mingles elements from rock and pop music without attaining any musical maturity.

Musical creation, further development and theoretical work cannot form the yardsticks for a festival like the Hot Jazz Meeting however. A good atmosphere and perhaps a little sentimentality are the main criteria. The audiences' reactions showed that they had been given what they wanted.

Ulrich Maske

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 May 1973)

THE ARTS

Nuremberg gives young East Berlin drama group the bird

Münchner Merkur

The 25th anniversary of the founding of the Nuremberg Youth Theatre was celebrated with the sixth international Youth Theatre week. At the same time the Federal Republic branch of ASSITEJ (Association of International Theatres for Children and Young People) held its general meeting, elected its committee and held discussions on youth drama today and the dramatisation of traditional fairytales.

Again, as on almost every occasion since the Association was founded in 1965, the discussion centred round whether youth drama should discuss topics of current interest or whether it should concentrate on constant values of a rather illusory and unrealistic nature.

While the Western world is tending towards plays with topical relevance the East Bloc still concentrates on grand works, giving young people a chance to dress up and act.

East Berlin's "Friendship Theatre" gave two performances in Nuremberg. In *Sechse kommen durch die ganze Welt*, based on ideas by Grimm, a soldier uses his powerful friends to help him win his rights against the king who has cheated him out of his pay. The title suggests that where 'divided we fall' six of us can take on the world – a song of praise to solidarity.

The play drags on and appears fragmentary. The actors are listless as if they have played it a hundred times before, the houses are toys straight from the juvenile world and the lulling words seem to have come straight from Granny's Treasury of Fairy Tales.

What this play doled out in the afternoon was laid on even thicker in the evening: pure social kitsch – a South American traditional novel with a huge infusion of Socialism, legitimised by a bully-boy of a proletarian and aimed at the emotions with a dollop of sentimental singing.

Die Herren des Standes is a play with songs about a horde of young Brazilians, who earn their food with thefts "while their talents atrophy". They try to find their salvation somewhere between the priest and their fence. They are aggressive, quick to grab for the knife, and then like children as they steal, beat people up and ride on carousels.

Their life takes on a purpose when they join the fight for freedom. And all agree – soldiers, priests and large property-owners.

There was plenty of laughter from the auditorium. Scornful catcalls and whistling punctuated the dialogue. There were ironic but admiring jeers when a girl wiggled her hips, but the audience really gave the East Berliners the bird when they sang some of the more appalling songs.

Stage lights went out and we saw the bright lights of the fairground as the actors sang of their first kiss and how their heart stopped beating when they rode on the carousel. And again and again we hear the story of the revolutionary who trekked 26,000 miles through primaeval forest to free his friends.

This is no way to create distance between the footlights and a critical audience however much it may be Brechtified. Drama of this kind does not call for the unbiased criticism of the audience but screams at them to sing along with the revolutionary songs.

The performance by the Everyman Players from the United States was entertaining by comparison, since it was effervescent and did not set out to convert anyone to anything. They acted the fable of the tortoise and the hare. This of course was nothing new – it was not experimental and was not meant to be. Once again the young actors were relying on the enlightening force of precepts that applied in the times of Aesop and La Fontaine and still do today. There was nothing topical about this performance. But the cast played with great exuberance and in fantastic costumes that enchanted the younger members of the audience, despite the language difficulties. One example of sensible children's drama could have been provided by the Swedish adventure play *Die Westindienfahrer*, with which the hosts opened the festival. This exciting play about the mutiny of exploited sailors on an overloaded ship was spoiled by the lavishness of the costumes and the temperament of the performers. A Rumanian puppet play and *The Bremen Municipal Musicians* were also to be seen.

Rudolf Herfurtner

(Münchner Merkur, 14 May 1973)

A scene from *The Gay Musicians* produced by the Bulgarian National Youth Theatre (Photo: Städtische Bühnen Nürnberg)

Music in Berlin

In five consecutive days at the turn of next year, 29 December 1973 to 2 January 1974, Herbert von Karajan will be conductor of a Beethoven Festival in Berlin. All nine symphonies will be performed.

This information has been released by Wolfgang Stresemann, the director of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, in a preview of the coming season. This brings the total number of Karajan concerts in Berlin to 27, to which one must add a further 35 on tour, a tour that will take in Tokyo and Osaka in October and November. Thus, of the orchestra's 130 concerts next seaso, almost half will be under Karajan's baton.

One newly introduced idea is the series of six concerts for children, which will be in addition to the concerts for young people, which have been running for a number of years.

A major feature of the programme for the Berlin Festival in September and October will be performances of Bernd Alois Zimmermann's *Requiem für einen jungen Dichter*, and his latest work *Ich wandte mich und sah an alles Unrecht*. Among the works to be given their first performance are Yun's *Overture for Large Orchestra* and Ishii's *Polarities*.

Among the conductors to take up the baton in Berlin in the coming season are Karl Böhm, Eugen Jochum, Carlo Maria Giulini, Moshe Atzmon, Seiji Ozawa, David Oistrach, Zubin Mehta, Gennadi Roschdestwenszy, Colin Davis, Rafael Kubelik, Hans Zender and Michael Gielen.

Soloists will include Maurizio Pollini, Pinchas Zukerman, Wilhelm Kempff, Itzak Perlman, Igor Oistrach, Rudolf Serkin and Yehudi Menuhin (who will also be conducting).

(Die Welt, 12 May 1973)



A scene from the operatic version of Dylan Thomas' *Under Milk Wood* produced in Hamburg (Photo: Fritz Peyer)

Dylan Thomas musically interpreted at Hamburg Opera

In the beginning there was a little town in Wales, a dreamy, out-of-the-way sort of place between woodlands and the sea. Then along came a poet named Dylan Thomas and made the secrets of this poetic place into a play for voices, a radio play that enthralled young literary people in the mid-fifties.

This was the first transformation Llareggub was to go through into a lively, picturesque, highly musical language. A second and third metamorphosis were to follow. Dylan Thomas himself wrote a stage version, which enjoyed success in this country as well as Britain. And now – somewhat late for a creation that has already gone down into literary history – *Under Milk Wood* has been transformed for the musical drama.

Its premiere at Hamburg Staatsoper could not be described as an overwhelming success. There was applause enough for the performers, but boos were in evidence when the German composer Walter Steffens took his bow. Gemerally the work was accepted but accepted coolly.

Steffens could scarcely expect more from his critics. The Hamburg stage has just about exhausted the possibilities of what can be offered as Modern as the Rolf Liebermann era draws to its close. It has already had a feast of modernity with Kagel's *Staatstheater* and Schoeffer's *Kyldex I*.

Unter dem Milchwald took its place in the list of works that Liebermann has commissioned – musically it can be said to have achieved the standards it aimed at because those standards were not too high.

Steffens is good at illustrating and parodying. With a large orchestra he is capable of creating a decent and pregnant poetic atmosphere spicing it with such moments as the grotesque funeral to the accompaniment of a Strauss waltz.

There is no disputing that he has a feeling for the lyrical and a sense of comedy, nor that his musical idiom is acceptable, moving as it does without compulsion between individual freedom and formal rigour. But in the end the poetic model seems to be stronger than the work of the composer. The narrator, a role taken on in Hamburg by Günther Lüders who simply could not be surpassed, triumphs with the spoken music of the genuine poet over the singing and the orchestral colours.

The audience was wholly in favour of the scenic preparations made by director Kurt Horres, who unfortunately could not be in Hamburg to accept the acclaim, as he had been slightly hurt in a motoring accident on the way to Hamburg.

Horres and his scenic designer Hanna Jordan discovered a quite unconventional solution to the problem of scene-changing. The orchestra pit was covered over, and on it picturesque people went about their business in gaily coloured cottages wheeled on for the purpose.

There was the blind captain and his favourite harlot, the draper, the undertaker, the clean widow, the stupid organist, the policeman, Sinbad the Sailor, the Reverend Eli Jenkins and many others, more than thirty scurrilous types in all, each in turn more pleasing than the previous one, so that it was impossible to rate this cast as anything but outstanding.

Behind this stage area rises Milk Wood, and on the slopes in the half-light there glint the instruments of the orchestra conducted by Marek Janowski.

The production was pleasing, Dylan Thomas gave pleasure once again and there was a good deal of sympathy for Walter Steffens, who had once again brought the dreamy Welsh town to life.

Rolf Gaska

(Kieler Nachrichten, 12 May 1973)

RESEARCH

Radio telescope bears out big bang theory

A group of scientists from the Max Planck Institute of Radio Astronomy set out to prove that the world began with a big bang – and they have already discovered the basic components of life between the stars of the Milky Way.

For the past twelve months they have been surveying the universe through the world's largest fully-portable radio telescope from their base at Effelsberg in the peaceful Eifel valley.

Their first research findings obtained via this one hundred metre telescope have now been published and can only be described by means of superlatives.

Everything fades into insignificance beside the question of the origin of the cosmos and the creation of the world.

The scientists believe that the Westerwald in Rhineland Palatinate would have been a better base for their operations but North Rhine-Westphalia was preferred in the end as Düsseldorf offered a subsidy of one million Marks and the frontiers of the Federal state just included the location of the observatory.

The giant parabola picks up rays from radio sources in the universe. By analysing their measurements by computer, the scientists are able to draw conclusions as to the composition, movement and origin of the radio source.

Optical telescopes can no longer penetrate into the depths where radio telescopes pick up the signals from quasars and pulsars. The distance between the Earth and these radio sources cannot yet be measured.

Despite these vast distances the radio astronomers have found that the similar neutron stars for instance must have an unusual density. A cubic centimetre of their material is thought to weigh between ten million and one hundred million tons.

The radio astronomers are also trying to gain more information about "background radiation". Almost all scientists look upon the existence of this radiation as proof that the universe began with a big bang when in a state of extremely high material and radiation density.

The astronomers have also obtained information on the existence of elements of protein and life in interstellar space. By means of the telescope in Effelsberg they were able to unravel still further the mystery surrounding the gigantic clouds of gas and dust between the stars.

These interstellar clouds do not consist of individual atoms and simple two-atom molecules as was previously assumed but of a number of molecules, some of them with an extremely complex structure. They contain anything up to seven atoms and include methylacetylene. These molecules exist despite the vacuum and the extremely cold temperature of minus 260 degrees.

The radio telescope will face its first international test in the summer of 1974 when it will be used to pick up telemetric data transmitted by the Helios solar probe, a venture being conducted jointly by the United States and the Federal Republic. The Helios will fly to within 37 kilometres of the solar surface. But the 56 scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy have other fears where the future is concerned – the "frequency pollution" which is threatening their work. Their anger is directed mainly towards a series of American test satellites planned for 1974. These satellites will be transmitting at a reception of wave-lengths important to the experiments being conducted at Eiffelsberg.

Passing aircraft can also disturb the radio astronomers' work as the waves emitted by these planes are one hundred thousand times as strong as the weak impulses from sources in the universe. Their measurements were recently disturbed by a British military unit on manoeuvres in the Eiffel range. The scientists asked the soldiers to find another base for their radar equipment and added emphasis for the urgency of their demand by throwing in a few bootles of beer. Asked to specify the benefits their research could bring, the astronomers replied: "We are conducting basic research. Our work is of basic concern to civilisation." They added that their experiments cost only a fraction of the expenditure involved in the large number of military projects.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 15 May 1973)



Effelsberg radio telescope (Photo: MPG)

Computers aid weathermen

The centuries-old dream of being able to understand the weather is still far from fruition but remarkable successes have already been chalked up by international meteorology, which this year is celebrating its centenary.

Under the world weather service programme drawn up by the International Meteorological Organisation the Central Bureau of the Federal Republic's Weather Service in Offenbach is acting as a regional headquarters for the exchange of information between the international centres in Melbourne, Washington and Moscow and a further 140 national and 25 regional centres.

Fourteen to fifteen million items of information are telexed to the centre every day and a large number of specialist personnel used to be required to cope with this flood of data before a computer was installed last August. The computer, supplied by AEG-Telefunken, is able to work alongside the computers used at other centres.

Two digital computers with all the necessary extras form the central feature of this new information service guaranteeing quicker exchange and analysis of data.

Direct operations with neighbouring centres in Paris, Bracknell near London, Stockholm, Moscow, Prague, Vienna and Bet Dagan, Tel Aviv, began on 1 March to ensure a rapid exchange of information with the new and complicated techniques of transmission.

During the course of the year the centres in Zurich, Rome and De Bilt, Amsterdam, will also be linked to the computer. The conversion from data transmission to picture transmission (such as weather maps) takes place automatically. It is estimated that the new round-the-clock system will increase the speed of information transmission twenty to forty fold.

The computers in operation carry out their duties with breath-taking speed. It takes only one millonth of a second to obtain three figures from its data band and, once it is operating at full capacity, it will be able to conduct anything up to half a million operations within one second.

Another eight million or so items of information are to be found in two further data banks. To obtain any part of this information, the computer only needs some seventeen thousandths of a second.

Speed is essential as the four thousand weather stations cooperating in the world weather service programme are asked to provide information every six hours and at around the same time. Only fast-operating computers can cope with the resulting flood of data.

Udo Kreuzinger

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 11 May 1973)



Arno Peters' projection (below) is a far cry from the familiar Mercator (Photos: Ullstein)

Peters projection vies with Mercator

The Earth looks nothing like the way it is portrayed in our atlases. It looks nothing like the way it is depicted by a new map drawn up by historian Arno Peters either.

But Peters' map incorporates a number of decisive improvements over the previously used geographic representations of the Earth's surface. It shows the continents and individual countries in their correct proportions, its rectangular form is absolutely reliable in the north-south and east-west directions, the countries of Europe and the temperate zones have been given their almost genuine form and the whole globe is included.

The maps featuring in atlases up to now have all been based on the four-hundred-year-old projections of a German by the name of Kremer, better known as Mercator.

Europe forms the central point of the map, despite its true geographical position, the Equator runs through the bottom third, two thirds of the map taken up by the Northern countries. Greenland appears almost four times as large as Australia although the reverse is true, Europe seems almost as large as South America though it is really only half as big and the Antartic, the fifth largest continent does not feature at all on these maps.

These distortions result partly from the repeated attempt to represent the three-dimensional globe in two-dimensional form. But, Peters claims, they are also an outcome of the colonial era when Europe was the centre of the world and the White Man's world was shown to be larger and more important than the rest of the globe.

The new map has managed to show countries according to their actual size despite the use of only two dimensions. Europe is no longer the centre of the world but is found in the northernmost quarter and the Equator runs through the middle as it should.

The new projection makes the continents appear malformed when compared with traditional depictions. Africa seems long and narrow and Greenland for instance is no more than a small triangle.

Whereas on older maps only the countries in the narrow equatorial zone are shown true to shape, Peters' map also correctly reproduces the shape of countries in all temperate zones of the 47th parallel.

The new map reproduces the true proportions but it has one disadvantage over older maps – because of its complicated projection it cannot be used by anyone planning to sail from Plymouth to America. It is useless for navigation.

Peters has already started negotiations with television companies which may wish to use his map instead of the old one as backcloths to news and current affairs programmes.

Uly Foerster

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 11 May 1973)

MEDICINE

Sex survey takes lid off teenage morals

Young people's morals are better than is generally thought in this country. Though one teenager in two has started dating by the age of thirteen, sexual intercourse does not usually start for another three and a half to four years.

By the time they are seventeen half the teenagers in this country have petting sessions or sexual intercourse once or twice a month. These relationships are normally restricted to one or two partners and are generally the result of a firm friendship.

These findings, the result of a survey conducted among 602 young poeple in Frankfurt, Hamburg, Cologne, Stuttgart and Munich, have now been published in the medical journal *Sexualmedizin*.

The survey, described as representative for the whole of the Federal Republic, was conducted by Professor Volkmar Sigusch, the Frankfurt sexologist, and Hamburg psychologist Gunter Schmidt.

The two scientists came to the conclusion that teenagers are still forced to adopt modes of sexual behaviour which they have not opted for voluntarily and which take the role of a surrogate.

Eighty per cent of the sixteen and seventeen-year-old boys covered by the survey reached their orgasms by means of masturbation, six per cent in petting sessions and only fourteen per cent through sexual intercourse. The girls' answers were divided equally between these three categories.

"Almost all boys and half of all girls have had experience of masturbation by the time they are sixteen," Professor Sigusch states.

Most of the young people interviewed claimed that though they enjoyed masturbation and gained satisfaction from it they would prefer sexual intercours.

The survey also revealed that eighteen per cent of the boys and six per cent of the girls had had homosexual contacts, though only four per cent of the boys and one per cent of the girls admitted regular homosexual relationships.

Asked what they considered the most important feature about sex, half the teenagers put pleasure at the top of their list. Its social function came second – "sex brings people closer" – followed by reproduction in third place.

As many as 98 per cent of the boys and girls approved of pre-marital sexual intercourse. But 66 per cent of the boys and 52 per cent of the girls stated they would put an end to any firm relationship if their partner had sexual intercourse with a third party. Almost eighty per cent of the teenagers claimed they wanted to marry.

Professor Sigusch summed up young people's morals today on the basis of this and other information: "A boy and girl live together, enter into a firm relationship, are sexually faithful to one another and stay together as long as there is some love or strong affection.

"After they have had several relationships of this type, reached their mid-twenties and gained some experience in their job, they will conduct their next love affair with the right partner as a marriage and have on average two children."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 May 1973)

Alternative to Pill

Biochemists and doctors in this country are trying to avoid the complications resulting from the use of the Pill by gaining new information about other possible methods of contraception.

Dr Hans Fritz of Munich University Surgical Hospital believes there is a possibility of preventing male sperm penetrating and fertilising the female ovum. He claims he has achieved this by means of substances already known to biochemistry, though in a different field.

In an interview that recently appeared in the Munich medical journal *Ärztliche Praxis* Dr Fritz stated it could even be possible to develop a contraceptive vaccine which remains effective for a certain time span.

The World Health Organisation has given its financial backing to the research work currently being conducted in Munich as well as to similar projects in Britain, Australia, Sweden and the United States. (Der Tagesspiegel, 5 May 1973)

Bill of health

Dr G. Ritter of Remagen was astounded when he compared the blood pressure of the 224,515 conscripts born in 1950 on their entry into the armed forces and on their discharge eighteen months later.

High blood pressure tended to return to a more normal level after this period of military service, he found, and physical exercise also increased blood pressure where it had previously been too low.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 May 1973)

Eurolab for Heidelberg

Frankfurter Neue Presse

The European Molecular Biology Laboratory is to be based in the Federal Republic. Representatives of Switzerland, France, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Britain and the Federal Republic recently met at the headquarters of the European Nuclear Research Organisation in Geneva to sign an agreement setting up the Institute in Heidelberg. The laboratory will cost an estimated 75 million Marks and should be ready by 1977.

The nine member countries of the European Conference for Molecular Biology discussed the establishment of a European molecular biology laboratory as long ago as 1963.

Professor John C. Kendrew, the British Nobel Prizewinner, was one of the project's backers and has closely followed developments. As a result, he has been appointed head of the new research laboratory.

Horst Ehmke, the Research and Technology Minister, stated in a message to the conference that the biological sciences had attained great importance in the field of basic research. "They promise far-reaching and revolutionary effects on people and human society in the future," he said.

The Heidelberg laboratory will one day employ sixty scientists on a full-time basis. There will also be twice this number of guest researchers working on a temporary basis. The laboratory will have three hundred staff, including technical personnel. (Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 May 1973)

■ OUR WORLD

Festival of flowers in Hamburg

President Gustav Heinemann opened the International Gardening Fair, IGA 73, on 27 April in Hamburg. This is the fifth such festival of flowers in the Hanseatic city – the first was way back in 1869. It is a show of blooms that is superlative in every way.

In the mid-nineteenth century 150,000 Gold Marks were invested in a flower show attracting 20,000 visitors to an area of 40 acres. IGA 73 – the third such exhibition in Hamburg since the War – covers 140 acres of Planten un Blomen, the green heart of Hamburg, and takes in the Botanical Gardens and the Wallanlagen. It cost 59 million Marks of public money to put on.

Experts reckon that by the time the exhibition closes in October it will have outdone anything else produced by any other country. Just about everything to do with the worldwide love of flowers and gardening will be covered by the 1,300 events at IGA 73.

One thousand two hundred exhibitors from 48 countries announced that they would be taking part. When IGA opened there were 44 orchid breeders from fourteen countries in Hamburg showing off their beautiful success story. Never before has there been such a magnificent collection of orchids in one hall.

A million tulips, more than 300,000 pansies, forget-me-nots, narcissi and primulas, 15,000 rose bushes, a unique Alpine garden with gentians, Europe's largest garden of fuchsias – all in the open air, filling the heart of Hamburg with their colour and perfume.

This arena of flowers for gardeners, landscape gardeners, fruit and vegetable growers and the expected seven million visitors will be open throughout the summer.

This gigantic show of flowers is not only an aesthetic pleasure for amateur and professional flora fanciers – it is also carefully calculated business. Houseowners and tenants in this country spend millions every year on their gardens, window-boxes and tubs on the balcony. Eight million Marks a year are paid by gardeners here for goods and services to do with the garden. And the market is not saturated.

It is said that as a status symbol the garden is on the way to ousting the car. So the Hamburg exhibition is designed to present to people the latest techniques for creating a more beautiful and spectacular garden. Exhibitors are fighting tooth and nail for medals, prizes and diplomas for the flowers exhibited in the open air and in the six exhibition halls. Every award can mean greater status on the market and hence better sales and turnover.

Visitors to IGA, whether just flower lovers or fanatical gardeners, profit from this competitiveness. There is a chance to admire new types of plant not seen here before. The Japanese have built up a veritable forest of conifers and bonsai trees on their 600 square metres at IGA.

The rarest breeds of fuchsia from all over Europe have been collected for the fuchsia show – some magnificent specimens being over a hundred years old. On the rose hills there are more than forty varieties of the "queen of flowers". Hamburg gardeners have contributed 3,000 roses, to be seen in a hall in boxes.

The amateur gardener will find useful tips, suggestions and information at his disposal from the experts. There is even a "flower doctor" in the house. Special advice centres have been set up and there will be five seminars each for 35 participants between May and September. Audio-visual information services are also on hand. An educational programme entitled "Floravision 73" is given on a giant screen in one of the halls. It is organised by the Central Association of Fruit and Vegetable Growers and Gardeners (ZVG) with 4,000 slides and explanations in three languages. Visitors are informed that the Federal Republic is the biggest producer of flowers and decorative house-plants in Europe. And if you like offbeat useless information how about this: the cucumbers produced in the Federal Republic each year, if laid end to end, would encircle the world!

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 April 1973)



A bird's-eye view of IGA 73, Hamburg's blaze of floral colour (Photo: IGA 73)



Flowers everywhere, with Hamburg's TV tower in the background (Photo: IGA 73)

High-powered inertia

The first national congress was a great success because *fewer* people turned up at it than was hoped. For this was the congress of the Confederation of Federal Republic Sloths, a registered society. The Confederation has 1,300 members, but only thirty turned up.

The Chairman of the Confederation commented: "That's 1,270 candidates for the post of honorary chairman. Anyone who is too lazy to come to the AGM deserves this distinction."

Nevertheless the sloths had their hands full, most uncharacteristically, at this meeting in Heiligenhafen on the Baltic coast. There was so much activity they nearly did themselves a mischief.

Some said that all this activity contravened the sloths' statutes, but there was good reason for it – the organisation became politically involved. The meeting was held on 1 May, the day when the working man traditionally rests from his labours. What better day for the do-nothings to work for once?

The Confederation drew up a petition to be presented to the government, Opposition and the Churches, calling for a "day of doing nothing". Their proposal was that 1 April would be a good day on which this feast could be held. 'That will show them in Bonn', the sloths felt. 'They cannot pretend we don't exist now.' The sloths awarded their "Golden Boomerang" to the writer Felix R. Paturi for his book *The Escalator Effect, or How to Carve Out a Career By High-powered Inertia.* Sloths explain that the boomerang is a symbol for achieving the full effect with only fifty-per-cent effort.

(Die Zeit, 4 May 1973)



This monster telephone receiver at IGA 73 in Hamburg is a post office information centre (Photo: Conti-Press)

World's biggest stamp show in Munich

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

The world's biggest and most valuable exhibition of stamps was opened in Munich on 11 May. Security is tight and the most valuable exhibits are behind reinforced glass. Hidden TV cameras watch visitors, and over a hundred security officials guard entrances and exits. Visitors who are suspected of wanting to do more then *view* the stamps are shadowed.

More than a million stamps are in the halls of IBRA, the international philatelic exhibition. 1,400 collectors from 13 countries have sent their most treasured pieces of paper. But the organisers are not revealing the total value of the stamps on show. Unofficial estimates vary between eighty and five hundred million Marks.

Among the unwelcome visitors in Munich are tax officials, for stamps are among the most highly rated investment items today, and not all have been declared by their owners to the taxman.

The exhibitors are as illustrious as the stamps themselves. Prince Rainier of Monaco has sent the prize items from his stamp albums, the Queen even opened her secret closets in which the design for every stamp is kept that was not issued at the counters because the royal portrait was unsatisfactory. If even the slightest flaw in the crown is detected a stamp may not be issued in Britain or any of the Commonwealth countries, by the highest decree.

The initiators of the postal service in Germany, the Princes of Thurn und Taxis, have put their valuable collection on show, as has the British postal museum and the Bavarian postal archives. The latter is exhibiting a previously unknown letter bearing six of the legendary "Black One" stamps.

The most valuable single stamps are no longer in the hands of royalty. They have been acquired by a Brazilian millionaire. They include the "Double Ox-eye" valued at half a million Marks. This is twice as valuable as the Mauritius "Post Office Blue".

For the first time Red China and the GDR have sent specialist collections to a Western stamp exhibition. If you tire of complete sets, covers and letters you can see the special exhibition of curiosities such as field post from the wars and a collection of letters rescued from sunken ships.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 May 1973)

■ SPORT

Munich taught hormone he-men their lesson



Docabolin works wonders, claims Dr Armin Klümper of Freiburg, the man to whom top-flight athletes in this country flock when aches, pains and ailments of one kind and another start to impair their performances.

This particular wonder drug he has at the ready in his medicine chest for women athletes is a hormone preparation developed to aid physical recovery during recuperation from illness.

It was developed in the Eastern Bloc but has long ceased to be prescribed exclusively for the sick. The women who take it can be as fit as a fiddle provided they are promising athletes, mentally stable and work hard at their training schedules.

In order to ensure satisfactory medical supervision docabolin is usually injected at fortnightly intervals. The women who take it develop a treat, and there can be no mistaking the extra muscle they put on.

There can be no gainsaying that the Eastern Bloc leads the field in this sector of medicine and physical education either. Its female field athletes are muscle-bound record-breakers.

Eastern Bloc girls have grown so all-powerful with the aid of hormone treatment that in Western Europe, Africa, Asia and America women shot-putters are growing fewer and further between, and women discus and javelin specialists are also becoming harder to find.

Klümper claims that decabolin, unlike other, proscribed hormone preparations, has no after-effects – as regards health in later life, that is. "The artificially developed muscles are pretty well there to stay, though," he admits.

Now this is a prospect that women athletes in the Western world are unlikely to face with equanimity.

In the Western hemisphere women would sooner look slim than overweight, and although athletes are prepared to make concessions during their sporting years they have no intention of disfiguring themselves permanently with the aid of body-building drugs.

Hormone preparations are a fact and unquestionably boost sporting performances. Yet they are not on the list of proscribed drugs, if only because the minutest traces are registered in urine samples, with the result that analysts cannot be quite sure whether or not they have caught an offender.

Besides, athletes generally take four-week courses of body-building hormone jabs. Before important competitions they can and do go without.

Over the past five years a dangerous subculture has made its appearance among top-flight athletes who really need any amount of muscle to reach the top.

The last major excesses of this cult came to light last summer prior to the Munich Olympics. Highly fancied favourites in field events came a cropper one after another. In next to no time nearly all of them were out of the running.

The reason was invariably the same. Instead of listening to their doctors and limiting themselves to between ten and twenty milligrammes a day over a specific period a number of athletes increased their intake of hormone preparations to 100 mg. Some of them lost count altogether, gulping down pills as though their lives depended on it.

Last summer athletes everywhere were training incessantly, and their muscles grew to such a size that they got in each other's way, while ligaments and cartilages strained and snapped. More often than not the whole business boomeranged.

Life has since returned to normal, and Dr Klümper reckons that developments are beginning to make more sense too. Shot-putters, hammer-throwers, weight-lifters and the like have demonstrated a return to common sense by shedding at least eight kilos (18 lb) over the winter.

One particularly serious offender has lost forty kilos (88 lb) over the winter – a somewhat spectacular achievement. "In the long run your body just cannot keep up the pace," says European hammer-throwing champion Uwe Beyer, who is upset by the course events have been taking.

Such linguistic confusion reigned in the Olympic Village that making contact was no easy business, but you may rest assured that the heavyweights at Munich compared notes. They had to do so in order to find out what conclusions their respective countries had reached in respect of hormone doses.

The Eastern Bloc has the greater experience and the upshot of such information as was gleaned was that it is not the amount that matters but the right combination of preparation and dosage.

As a result athletes and coaches have taken to consulting doctors more frequently in this country for one.

Scientific publications of any value are not accessible, though. Specialists in Leipzig, Moscow, Bucharest and Sofia are taking good care not to let the cat out of the bag.

Now there may well be enough medical specialists in this country who would be seriously interested in conducting trials of hormone preparations using human guinea pigs, but the athletes are wary, and on the few occasions athletes have been persuaded by their trainers to submit to trials there has been no money forthcoming to finance experiments.

Sports associations are only too well aware of the smoke, but they steadfastly refuse to see the fire, preferring to issue occasional vague words of warning.

Munich was an eye-opener for amateur guinea pigs, let us call them. At least two gold medallists in "muscle" disciplines seemed most unlikely to have resorted to hormones of any kind. They were Czech discus man Ludvik Danek and Soviet decathlon world record-holder Viktor Avilov, a man with an ascetic look about him.

Muscle pills no longer seemed the be-all and end-all, and the first admissions of having overdone it were soon heard from Sweden.

Discus world record-holder and *enfant terrible* Ricky Bruch sported a lean and hungry look at the European indoor athletics championships in Rotterdam in March. It was a far cry from the days when he used to look like a bloated baby.

In the bar that evening he confided to bystanders that his thyroid gland was a wreck, his liver, his kidneys, his soul – all ruined.

Pelle Svensson, two-time world wrestling champion, also admitted to having been horrified to discover that after a hormone course his muscles had lost their bant and his sex life was a shambles.

Other athletes claim the boot is on the other foot, but Svensson went on to name others he knew to be the product of hormone treatment: Finnish long-distance runners Lasse Viren and Juha Väätäinen and GDR Nordic skiers Gerhard Grimmer and Dietmar Klause.

He need hardly have gone to the trouble, though. In 1972 the world's sporting elite was riddled with pill-takers, although the story that body-building hormones were used to good effect by runners proved to be no more than a rumour.

Dr Klümper remains convinced that hormone preparations have a role to play in top-flight sport, albeit a supporting role. Athletes who are kept out of the running for any length of time due to illness or injury stand of benefit from supervised treatment.

When gymnast Günter Spiel had to spend four weeks in bed the size of his thigh muscles shrank by a quarter and he has never been able to make good the loss.

The days of hormone weirdies have been over and done with since Munich, though, Dr Klümper comments. Odd individuals may yet to have learnt their lesson, but most dianabol adepts have been brought to their senses by the sheer failure of excessive hormone treatment to do them any good in the long run.

Robert Hartmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 5 May 1973)



Eberhard Gienger, 21, parallel bars gold-medallist at European championships (Photo: Werek)

Eberhard Gienger, champion gymnast at Grenoble

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Eberhard Gienger, this country's champion gymnast from Künzelsau, ended the European championships in Grenoble by winning the gold medal for his performance on the horizontal bars.

Gienger, a 21-year-old student of physical education, shared the honour with Klaus Köste of Leipzig. Both scored 19.25 points. Wolfgang Thüne of East Berlin came third with a score of 19.2 points.

Gienger took care not to overrate his achievement. He was gratified but not unduly enthusiastic, well aware that luck had been on his side. "The others really have to make a mess of things for me to win the crown," he commented, "Here in Grenoble it was Andrianov of the Soviet Union who came a cropper, for instance."

Chief coach Friedrich reckons the 21-year-old Swabian student whose rise to fame has been meteoric is no more than a mediocre talent. The reason behind his success is another one altogether.

"Eberhard benefits no end from his common sense," Friedrich is convinced. "That is why he is in full control of both himself and his training schedule."

Gymnastics officials are not worried by his spectacular accomplishments on the horizontal bars. Breakneck they may be, but to quote team doctor Dr Becker: "He is sensible enough not to try anything that will land him in serious trouble."

The new European champion nonetheless frankly admits that he was a little worried when he started training for his tour de force, the double somersault and half spin.

"That was what made it so exciting," he adds. "Overcoming my own anxiety gave me greater enjoyment than winning the gold medal at Grenoble."

He is already on the lookout for new feats of gymnastics. "The double somersault and double spin on the horizontal bars ought to be possible, you know," he muses. "Sooner or later someone is going to pull it off."

Does this sort of thing not make gymnastics too much like a circus act and represent too great a risk to the gymnast's health?

"That," Gienger reckons, "is something for the International Federation to take care of. Further improvements could certainly be made to equipment and mats."

He started training seriously at the age of thirteen. At seventeen he was national youth champion, at twenty champion in the twelve-discipline Olympic senior event and now, a year older, he is European champion.

Mind you, he too has come a cropper now and then. Six weeks ago in Riga, for instance, the Soviet Union held a tournament to which the entire European elite were invited. Gienger did not reach the finals in a single discipline.

Does he not find setbacks like this rather demoralising? "Far from it," he replies. "After a result like that my only wish is to get back to training immediately if not sooner."

His Grenoble gold medal will certainly prove a morale-booster. "Why on Earth should I of all people beat the combined strength of the Eastern Bloc?" he asked not long ago.

Now he knows what the feeling is like. "I realised for the first time that the great names I have looked up to since being a junior are people I am capable of beating."

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 May 1973)